



Officers Call



Editor: Terry Cooney

NOVEMBER 2020



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The picture on the left is Terry Cooney accepting the National MOAA Five Star Level of Excellence award to your Dayton Area Chapter. Presenting the award is Rod Hosler, the President of the Ohio Council Chapters (OCC) of MOAA in Ohio. The presentation was made at the latest quarterly meeting held at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus. The award is the highest award given to Chapters in recognition of their activities and programs. Terry stepped in for me as I recovered from my heart stent procedure. Thanks Terry.

I think we are back on track for our end of year of activities and programs. On 10 November the DAC plans to present the Toys-for-Tots check to the local Marine Corps representative. We will also use the opportunity to present a check from the DAC golf league to the USO. Both events are planned to take place at the newly opened WPAFB USO center. In compliance with the requirements of social distancing your DAC Board will represent the entire membership. After the presentations the Board will hold its monthly planning meeting. If interested in becoming a member of the Board or to sign up as the much needed 1st VP come join us.

The Board decided to cancel the Xmas party. In its stead we are organizing a party of older folks (your Board) that will try to sing Christmas carols to the residents of the Fisher Houses. We plan to stay outside the buildings for safety reasons and perhaps the residents will hear us. Pictures may be taken but certainly no recordings will be allowed. The details are subject to change but it is tentatively set for the evening of 22 December. More to come next month as the details are filled in.

Did you know that your DAC dues cover your yearly membership as well as your spouse? We have had a couple of members send in a check for \$25.00 vs the requirement of \$15 for annual membership that covers both member and spouse. That is not needed and we have allocated the additional funding provided to our Where needed account. For those that have paid \$25, please let us know if you would like your \$10.00 allocated differently or returned to you.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to visit our web site: www.daytonmoaa.weebly.com where you will find the current and past newsletters, legislative issues both locally and nationally, and much more. **For additional up-to-date information on national issues visit:** <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Top-Issues.aspx>

Mike Ondrasek,
President
Dayton Area Chapter

PLAN AHEAD

Time to mark your calendars for an exciting list of events in the coming months; we hope that these events provide something of interest to each of our members.

Here is the upcoming calendar.

10 November Presentation of Toys for Tots and USO checks

PROPOSED REVISION TO OUR CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The Dayton Area Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (DAC-MOAA) currently operates as a tax-exempt unincorporated association. In anticipation of filing articles of incorporation with the State of Ohio (primarily for liability-limiting reasons), the Executive Board has been working on updating our current Constitution and By-Laws.

In accordance with Article X (Changes in the Constitution and By-Laws) of our Chapter's current Constitution, changes to that document must first be approved by the Board and then submitted to the general membership of the Chapter for a vote. At its most recent meeting, the Board approved a proposed revision to the Constitution and By-Laws. An explanation regarding the proposed changes and a copy of the revised Constitution and By-laws will be distributed to the membership via e-mail and can be viewed on the Chapter web site.

We have received a number of e-mails supporting the changes and we appreciate the responses.

MOAA SURVIVING SPOUSE VIRTUAL CHAPTER SSSVC-02

Most MOAA folks are unaware that there is a virtual chapter (online) for MOAA Surviving Spouses that does not replace local chapters such as our DAC-MOAA, but is a supplement. They hold quarterly online meetings which may be accessed via Zoom, or via cell phone for audio.

The Surviving Spouse chapter has 127 members from 28 states plus one APO address. They are active on a variety of topics and work together through MOAA with other military groups in an attempt to speak with "one voice" to policy and legislative entities. The most recent hurdle was the phased in elimination of the so called "widows' tax" in the last National Defense Authorization Act.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in this group, feel free call me at (513)970-1095 and I can give you information on how to contact them. Jan Lorette, Surviving Spouse Rep. for DAC-MOAA

MILITARY RETIREES AND FAMILIES ARE GETTING AN EXTENSION ON ID CARD RENEWALS

Military dependents and retirees now have through the end of June 2021 to access benefits using ID cards that expired this year, thanks to an extension of temporary ID card rules issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Typically, cards must be applied for, issued and updated in person up to 30 days before the expiration date at one of the more than 1,600 ID card offices on military facilities worldwide. Cards that do not expire, such as those held by retirees over 65, do not need to be renewed.

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/09/21/military-retirees-and-families-are-getting-extension-id-card-renewals.html?ESRC=mr_200921.nl&fbclid=IwAR125l0WihZfll_ejxHMVWsnQ4HM4MveLFPq33gUZEIkOch2DHRrdPh5vM

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Despite the [repeal of the "widows tax"](#) in last year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), there is still work to be done for Congress to improve equity for survivor benefits. MOAA and The Military Coalition, a group of military and veterans service organizations representing a combined 5.5 million-plus membership, continue to advocate for the survivor community and seek legislation to address existing inequities.

One such piece of legislation making its way through both the House and Senate will do just that by lowering the so-called “remarriage penalty” and allowing more survivors of seriously disabled veterans to receive Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) benefits. Another would raise the DIC rate, and a third combines the two bills.

Bipartisan Support

The Caring for the Survivors and Families of Veterans Act, [S. 4594](#), introduced by Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.), mirrors the Surviving Families Benefit Expansion Act, [H.R. 8559](#), introduced in the House by Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-Conn.). Both pieces of legislation have Republican cosponsors. If passed by both chambers and signed by the president, they would:

- Lower the remarriage penalty from 57 to 55. This would allow survivors who remarry younger to continue receiving DIC benefits, as well as maintain eligibility for VA-backed home loans and dependent educational assistance.
- Reduce the amount of time for a veteran to be totally disabled from 10 years to five for the surviving spouse to receive DIC.

Officials estimate these changes would cost hundreds of millions of dollars – a figure that may not make the legislation possible in the current session, but is achievable for the 117th Congress, which begins in 2021.

What About DIC Improvement?

While the above measures would expand the pool of DIC recipients, two other bills – [S. 1047](#) and [H.R. 3221](#), both entitled the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation Improvement Act of 2019 – would raise the amount all DIC beneficiaries receive.

The legislation would boost DIC to 55% of the compensation of a 100% disabled veteran, up from the current 43%. This is on par with other federal survivor programs. Correcting this injustice is long overdue. Unfortunately, the initial cost estimate for this legislation was very high – roughly \$20 billion over 10 years.

This legislation is worthy of your support with a phone call and correspondence to your lawmaker. Equally worthy is legislation that wrapped all three efforts under one bill: [H.R. 6933](#), the Caring for Survivors Act of 2020, was reintroduced by Rep. TJ Cox (D-Calif.) this year and would provide the DIC boost and the benefits from the Tester/Hayes bills. It may prove more effective to break up these objectives into an incremental approach, affording the possibility of a small win in the current financial deficit environment.

MOAA GOLF LEAGUE

Another Golf League season is in the books and we had fun doing something we all enjoy in this time of shutting down virtually everything else. We were blest with a rare feat, (no weather cancelations!!). We will have an end of year video conference in October and not have an awards luncheon with the current circumstances. We will be voting in new President, Vice President and Treasurer.

Season Winners:

1	Jim VerStreate & Doug Hufnagle	135.0
2	Larry Simpson & Jay DeJongh	125.5
3	Steve Grant & Riley	124.5
4	Larry Pohl & Dick Liebsack	122.5
5	Denny Crouch & Fred Pumroy	120.0

Team Scramble Tournament Gross:

1	Denny Crouch & Fred Pumroy	69
2	Larry Simpson & Jay DeJong	72
3	Jim VerStreate & Doug Hufnagle	74

Team Scramble Tournament Net:

1	Bill Schaff & Makris	63
2	Dave White & Herb Edwards	65
3	Dan Dupree & Bob Emerson	66

Most Improved Player: Doug Hufnagle

7 Strokes Handicap improvement

FISHER HOUSE

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.

Dishwasher Detergent
 Individually Packaged Soups, etc.
 HE Laundry Detergent
 Lemonade or Iced Tea Drink Mix
 Paper Napkins
 Individual Packages-Creamer
 Toilet Paper
 Individual Packages-Sugar, Splenda
 Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
 1 & 2 Gallon Zip Lock Bags

4 Gallon Trash Bags
 Current DVDs- Family Type
 Individual bottles of water
 AA, AAA, & C Batteries
 Plastic Utensils (forks, spoons, cups, bowls)
 Light Bulbs-40, 60 & 75 watt
 Individual Travel Size Shampoos
 Paper Gift -All Sizes
 Styrofoam/Plastic Cups
 Individual Package Snack Ite

WORDS TO PONDER

" The Government you elect is the Government you deserve" Thomas Jefferson. **PLEASE VOTE**

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