

Military Officers Association of America

Dover Delaware Chapter

September 2017 Newsletter

1. Invitation to the Dover DE MOAA Dinner Meeting on September 16, 2017: The Dover Delaware Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) hopes you had a happy and safe summer, and invites all MOAA Members and their guests, and all active duty, prior service, retired National Guard, Reserve, USPHS, NOAA, Coast Guard and other Commissioned and/or Warrant Officers of the U.S. Uniformed Services, their spouses and guests to our next Dinner Meeting.

Date: Saturday Evening, September 16, 2017.

Location: Roma Italian Ristorante, [3 President Drive, Rt. 113 & Exit 95 Off Rt. 1, Dover, DE 19901.](#)

Time: 1700 Hours (5 PM) Social Hour;

1800 Hours (6 PM) Sit-Down Dinner.

Guest Speaker: Mr. James Coty, Public Affairs Officer & Interim Chief of Voluntary Services,

U.S. Veterans Administration Medical Center, New Castle, DE.

Topic: Latest VA Legislative Updates, Claims Improvements, and Medical Services in Delaware.

2. Chapter Awarded Five Star Level of Excellence for 2016: It is my privilege to announce that the Dover DE Chapter of MOAA has been awarded our sixth consecutive Five Star Level of Excellence Award from MOAA National in recognition of our outstanding legislative advocacy,

community outreach, and military family support initiatives throughout calendar year 2016. Special presentation of this award will be made at our November Dinner Meeting by Col (Ret.) Terri Coles, MOAA National's Senior Director of Council and Chapter Affairs. Congratulations and many thanks to all Chapter Members for your continued support and dedication to the entire military community in earning this prestigious recognition once again.

3. New Chapter Website "Dovermoaa.org": Many thanks and a "Tip of the Hat" to Kerry Brooks, spouse of fellow Chapter Member Jason Brooks, for her hard work in revising and establishing our New Chapter Website Dovermoaa.org. A web search via Google will actually now provide 2 choices; the first is called MOAA Dover Chapter in Dover, DE which provides comprehensive information about our Chapter. The second choice is called Dover Chapter - MOAA which links us to a generic information page about the Dover DE Chapter on the MOAA National Website. A current website is critical to communicate and network with the local community and with non-Chapter Members who want to join with us in our mission to Never Stop Serving. Many thanks again to Kerry for her superb job.

4. Watch Makers Repair School to Start Ticking: "Tip of the Hat" also goes out to Mr. Sam Cannan for his dedication and fortitude since Wednesday, September 13, 2017 will be the official ribbon cutting ceremony at 10 A.M. for the Watch Maker Repair School Initiative, 307 Sixth Street (Rt. 13), Odessa Delaware. There will be two open houses on Friday September 15th, from 4:30 - 6 P.M., and on Saturday, September 16th, from 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. An initial cadre of 6 disabled veterans will start training on that date, free of charge, to learn to repair watches and premium time pieces. This is a vanishing career field that will lead the program graduates to an independent self employed job with a potential six figure income. Kudo's to Sam in doing this all with donated funds, equipment, supplies, and manpower; a truly amazing accomplishment!

5. Viet Nam Dustoff Association Convention in Dover: The Viet Nam Dustoff Association is coming to Dover for their Sept. 21-23, 2017 national convention and will be hosted by Kent County Chapter 850 Vietnam Veterans of America. Highlights of their visit include a 7 P.M. Dinner on Sept. 22nd at the Modern Maturity Center in Dover followed by several events the next day. The \$35 plated dinner is open to the public on a first-come first-served basis with a Reservation cutoff of Sept. 15th. For tickets or sponsorship opportunities please call Mr. Paul Davis at [\(302\) 697-8384](tel:(302)697-8384) or e-mail him at pauldavis5322@comcast.net.

6. DAFB Retiree Appreciation Day: The Dover Air Force Base Retiree Appreciation Day will be on Saturday, October 21, 2017. Special presentations, information, and retiree briefings will be at the DAFB Landings All Ranks Club from 8:30 AM until noon. I will have a MOAA Recruiting and Information Table set-up there that day. More information to follow.

7. Join Us at the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund Dinner on November 4th: The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, which includes a Governor Appointed State Representative from MOAA, oversees the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund which provides emergency financial relief to honorably discharged Delaware veterans in critical need. The Fund is a 501 (c) (3) that was established in 2013 by the Delaware Legislature, but relies strictly on donations to continue its mission. A Black Tie Optional Affair to benefit the Trust Fund will held be on Saturday, November 4, 2017 , 6-10 P.M. at the Dover Downs Rollins Center. Dinner Tickets are \$100/person. Tickets may be ordered by mailing a check to: The Delaware Veterans Trust Fund Commission of Veterans Affairs, [802 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904](mailto:802SilverLakeBlvd., Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904). Please Memo Area: Trust Fund Dinner. The cutoff date for dinner reservations is October 27th. Tickets will be held at the Will Call Table at the event; No tickets will be sold at the door. Event Sponsorships are available until October 20th at the \$5,000/\$2,500/\$1,000 levels. Please visit [Delaware VeteransTrustFund.com](http://DelawareVeteransTrustFund.com) or call (302) 739-2792 for more information. Thanks for your help and support of Delaware's veterans in need.

8. Surviving Spouse Membership: The unfortunate passing of a MOAA Chapter Member may leave behind a Surviving Spouse who often feels alienated from participating in Chapter functions now that the active member is gone. We and MOAA National recognized this dilemma several years ago and thus developed the Surviving Spouse Membership, so that he/she left behind could continue on in and become a Regular MOAA Chapter Member in their own right with full participation and voting privileges. Your voices, opinions, and active participation are important to us, so please consider returning to the Dover Chapter and to MOAA National as a Surviving Spouse Member so that we can continue on together and Never Stop Serving.

9. Executive Committee Nominations: The current members of the 2017 Executive Committee are: Col (Ret.) Ron Sarg, President; Col (Ret.) Gregory Haven, Vice President; LCDR (Ret.) Tom Smith, Treasurer; Mrs. Laura Franze, Secretary; and Col Angela Showell, DNG Liaison & JROTC Program Coordinator. We consider it an honor and a privilege to have served in that capacity, and would like to continue on in those positions for 2018 if the Chapter membership so desires. However, additional nominations for those positions can also be submitted from the floor at our September and October Meetings with a final vote at our November 18, 2017 Dinner Meeting.

10. Fall Dinner Meetings: Please mark your calendars with the following additional Meeting Dates:

a. Saturday, October 21, 2017; Roma Italian Ristorante; U.S. Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester will be the Guest Speaker.

b. Saturday, November 18, 2017; Roma Italian Ristorante; Col (Ret.) Terri Coles, MOAA National's Senior Director for Council and Chapter Affairs will be the Guest Speaker in conjunction with our Annual "Table of Honor Ceremony" and non-perishable food collection for the Food Bank of Delaware.

c. *Sunday, December 10, 2017; Roma Italian Ristorante; Annual Holiday Party with Traditional Songs and Merriment lead by Jackie McCabe, and

collection of unwrapped toys for the USMC Leagues "Toys for Tots" Program.

Many thanks to all of you for your continued help and support, and thank you all for your service. Special thanks to the many service men and women currently serving both at home and in harm's way. May you all stay safe and sound. There is so much more yet to be done with the upcoming Legislative Session, so let's all work together and Never Stop Serving by making our voices heard loudly to Keep America Strong!

Sincerely,

Col (Ret.) Ron Sarg
President, Dover DE Chapter of MOAA