

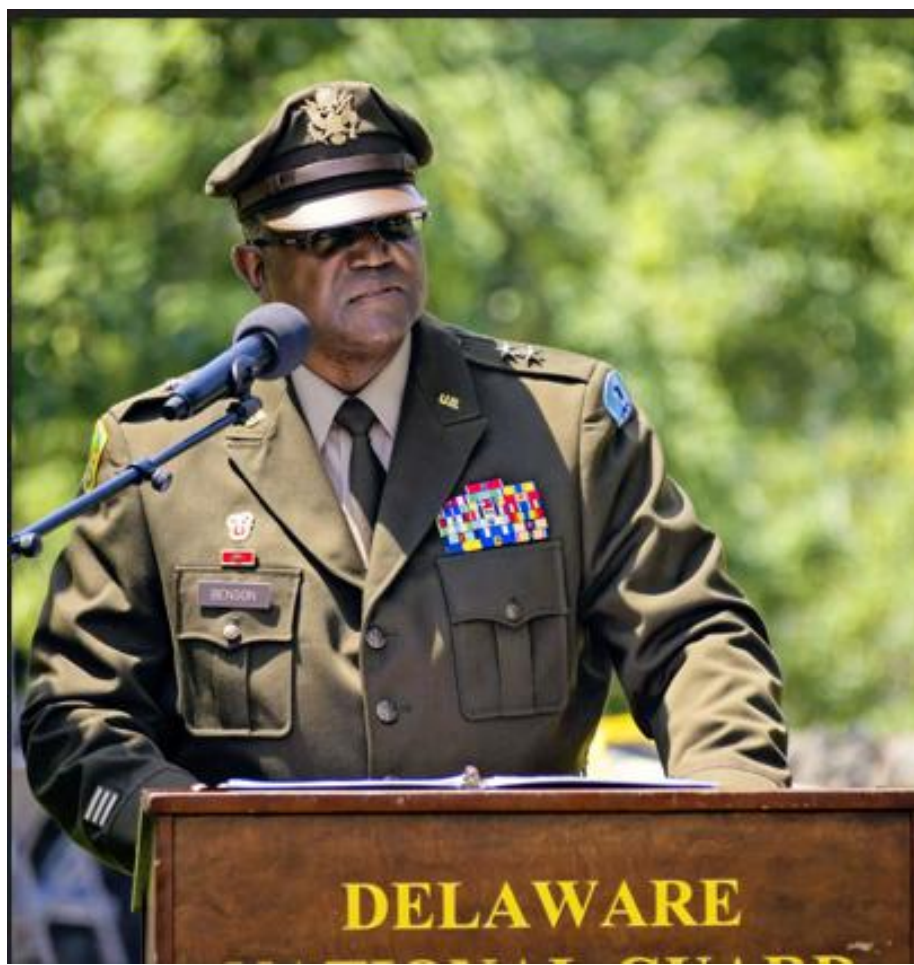


Dovermoaa.org

November 2025

MOAA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization open to officers and former officers of the Uniformed Services.

Next Dinner Meeting: November 20, 2025



Program:

TAG Update on Delaware National Guard

Major General James A. Benson

Adjutant General, Delaware National Guard Army

Major General James A. Benson assumed the duties of The Adjutant General of Delaware on January 30, 2025. In this role, he is responsible for overseeing the mission readiness of all Delaware National Guard units, including more than 1,500 Soldiers and 1,100 Airmen, ensuring their preparedness for both federal and state missions.

Prior to becoming The Adjutant General, MG Benson served as the Assistant Adjutant General of the Army for the Delaware National Guard from June 2023 to January 2025. He also held the position of Director of the Joint Staff, Delaware National Guard, from January 2021 to June 2023. Throughout his distinguished career, MG Benson has held numerous leadership positions, including command of the 259th (Tropo) Signal Company, the 198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, and the 261st Theater Tactical Signal Brigade.

MG Benson's military service includes deployments in support of both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, where he gained invaluable experience in leading and coordinating complex operations in challenging environments.

A dedicated lifelong learner, MG Benson is a graduate of the University of Delaware, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Economics. He went on to earn a Master of Business Administration from Wilmington University and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Army War College.

In his civilian career, MG Benson was an Emergency Management Consultant with the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and the United States Department of Agriculture, leveraging his military expertise to enhance disaster response and recovery efforts.

MG Benson's breadth of experience and unwavering dedication to both his country and community make him a respected leader within the Delaware National Guard and beyond.

Location: Franco's Dover. For directions and other information visit <https://francospizzadover.com/>

Agenda:

- 5-6 social hour
- 6-7 dinner
- 7-7:20 program
- 7:30 to 8:00 business meeting

Menu:

Baked Lasagna - \$31
Eggplant Parmigiana (with spaghetti) - \$32
Fettuccine with shrimp & mushrooms in white sauce - \$32
Add \$3.00 for sodas.

When you order, please tell Tom if you want decaf, coffee, or tea to speed up service before our speaker begins.

Above meals include salad, bread, coffee/tea, and tip but not dessert or adult beverages. Bar not extensive, wine and beer are easiest. Wine by bottle, can take home what you don't consume. Tom will call in all items at once. Pay Tom at the door. Thanks!

Call (301) 904-0228 or email rotorhead65@aol.com to confirm your attendance and select your meal with Tom Smith NLT 2 days before the dinner meeting. (note 301 exchange, not 301)

Community News:**Veterans Day:**

Our own Bill Welser spoke at the Veterans Day Event at Levy Court (VVA 850 was host) See Article as it appeared in the Bay-to-Bay News, attached.

Veterans Trust Fund Dinner—

MOAA table was joined by the Secretary of Defense! (on the *House of Cards* TV show, previous guest speaker Lee Murphy). MOAA members were EVERYWHERE that night. In addition to having our own table, two members served on the Board (Hank, Judge Bill), one member (Tom Smith) spoke about what it was like to be in the Navy (it was Navy Birthday), another member gave the invocation (Rev Riley), and another gave the Benediction (Carlton). Still another (Hank) purchased about ten tables.... more than half the people who attended sat at one of Hank's tables. We certainly did our part!

Del Vet Commission News:

Our own Doug Hudson has been sworn in as Chairman of the Veterans Commission! HooAH!

Sadly, Anna Lopez, past chair, former commander of Del Vets passed away the morning of the Trust Fund Dinner. A moment of silence was held during the dinner.

Chapter News:

TOUR of Medical Exam Facility, DAFB:

On Oct 23 at 1300 we toured the Medical Exam Facility hosted by our previous guest speaker, Dawn. Mike Orlando did a terrific job organizing the day, then had a funeral and could not join us on the tour. We had two from Sussex but they would not let them in the gate without a ENHANCED ID card. ERYWHERE.

Volunteers Needed!

Our beloved Vice President/Membership Chair, Greg Haven, has resigned. We now need for our board:

- Vice President (must be elected)
- Membership Chair (can be two people or one)

Please, someone step up and volunteer. Remember, in MOAA, spouses can hold office. Yes, I offered the job to Monica, and no, she respectfully declined.

- JB says the job of Newsletter Editor is also open.

Future Meetings and Events:

There is never a need to wait for the monthly Newsletter to advise you of the date or menu option: these are provided several meetings out in the Future Meeting Section.

All meals include homemade bread, side salad, coffee, tea, or soda. Alcoholic beverages, appetizers, and desserts are not included.

December—do we want paid entertainment?

Gifts for Kids—do we want to support Rev Riley's group again this year?

Spaghetti with meatballs - \$29

Chicken Parmigiana (with spaghetti) - \$31

Meat tortellini with alfredo - \$31

January 15, 2026: Christiane Warren, PhD will discuss the Berlin Wall

Baked Ravioli (topped with mozzarella sauce) - \$30

Eggplant Parmigiana (with spaghetti) - \$32

Stuffed shells with meat sauce - \$32

Feb 19: JROTC Fundraiser lunch and dinner on your own, bring friends!

19 March -

Chicken Parmigiana (with spaghetti) - \$31
Meat tortellini with sausage and meatballs - \$31
Linguine with white clam sauce (fresh clams) - \$32

16 April – Speaker Secretary of Veterans Affairs Karen Berry

Veal Parmigiana (with spaghetti) - \$33
Baked Lasagna - \$31
Fettuccine with meat sauce - \$29

21 May - (JROTC Scholarship Dinner)

Veggie deluxe personal 8" white pizza - \$25
Spaghetti with meat sauce - \$29
Eggplant Parmigiana (with spaghetti) - \$32

Waiting to confirm dates: Jason will brief about USPHS, the Secretary of Vet Affairs, Delaware Archives

Help us Grow & Stay Informed!

Why not share the news of membership in our great chapter with your friends and with any eligible military folks with whom you come into contact? Here's the link to our membership form: <https://dovermoaa.org/chapter-membership> .

To keep up to date between monthly newsletters and meetings, don't forget to check out our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/850935569172190>

Though MOAA National rated JB as a 5-star newsletter editor, if anyone wants to replace our fat, lazy newsletter editor, he will step down. To be our newsletter editor, you do not have to have as cute a face or as fuzzy a kissable tummy as JB.

Never Stop Serving,



Respectfully submitted,

JB

Newsletter Editor