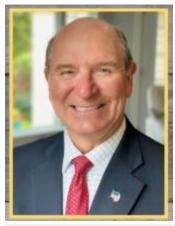


# <u>Dovermoaa.org</u>)

October 2025

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

# **Next Dinner Meeting: October 18, 2025**



# Program: Our Champion: Representative/Doctor/Colonel Jeff Hilovsky

State Rep. Jeff Hilovsky was elected to serve the residents of the 4th District (Oak Orchard, Long Neck, Angola) in 2022. As a result of population growth, he is the first legislator elected to serve this new district in Sussex County as a result of the mandated re-districting process.

Rep. Hilovsky has served the community as he treated patients for nearly 40 years as a Doctor of Optometry, Adjunct Clinical Professor, State Board President, and past member of the National Board of Examiners.

Additionally, retired Colonel Hilovsky served our country for 25 years in the Air Force culminating with his war time leadership as the Medical Commander for the 512th Air Wing at Dover Air Force Base during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In addition to his medical and military careers, Rep. Hilovsky has business ownership experience. Partnering with a colleague, they established Sussex Eye Center in 1993 and grew the business into a multi-location practice employing seven doctors and over 25 employees before retiring in 2022.

Seeking to fill a need in the lives of many young people, Dr. Hilovsky started the Leadership is a Lifestyle program. Now featured at three Sussex County high schools, this volunteer initiative provides leadership instruction and also opportunities to interact with uniquely successful professionals. This training provides participating students with insights into how servant leadership skills help all reach their life's full potential.

Rep. Hilovsky also serves the community by volunteering with Easterseals of Sussex County, the Lord Baltimore Lions Club, and Chestnut Mountain Ranch.

Jeff and wife Marcia have been married for over 42 years, have three grown children, and five grandchildren.

#### **Education**

Bachelor of Science, Grove City College (Grove City, PA); Doctorate, Illinois College of Optometry (Chicago, IL); U.S. Air Force Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff, Air War College

#### Occupation

Doctor of Optometry, former small business co-owner/operator (Sussex Eye Center), Colonel USAF retired

#### **Legislative Service:**

2022 to present

#### **Committees:**

Education, Member

Health & Human Development, Member

Judiciary, Member

Natural Resources & Energy, Member

Elections & Government & Affairs, Member

Veterans, Member

#### 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 <u>rotorhead65@aol.com</u> to confirm your attendance and select your meal with Tom Smith NLT 2 days before the dinner meeting. (note 301 exchange, not 301)

DO THIS TODAY PLEASE! (see note about RSVP at the end of this newsletter!)

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

## **TOUR of Medical Exam Facility, DAFB:**

On Oct 23 at 1300 we will Tour the Medical Exam Facility hosted by our previous guest speaker, Dawn. Mike Orlando is making the arrangements for this. Please contact Mike at Vincent Orlando <a href="mailto:vincentmorlando@gmail.com">vincentmorlando@gmail.com</a>

Despite the government shutdown, we can still have the tour of the Medical Exam Facility. As of today we have 14 confirmed attendees for the 23 Oct tour. We can accommodate 6 more.

Gene Thornton
Mike Orlando
Doug Hudson
Tom and Cathee Smith
Randy and Ouzana Morgan
John Riley
Joe and Patti Vilani
Bill and Sue Welser
Bill and Dale Williams

Anyone who is not a DoD retiree cardholder must be with a retiree to pass through the gate. The non-DoD retiree must stop in the Visitors Center located to the right of the main gate and will be issued a pass.

Project Manager Vince Orlando recommends that the non-DoD ID card holder meet a DoD retiree at the visitors center. You know who you are, so please contact a retiree for link up.

We will meet at the Landings at 1130 for our meal. The address is 479 Chevron Lane. I have attached the menu. I will need everyone's meal choice by October 17th. We pay the landings directly (bring cash or credit care) See menu, attached.

We meet Dawn at 1300 to start the tour. Mike asked her to join us for lunch, and she will let us know. Tour members must wear closed-toe shoes, and no photos are permitted.

Vince provided maps for the location (see attached) in case anyone does not want to eat lunch and meet us at the facility. Tour will last about an hour and a half.

Not sure if the attendees would like to do an after-tour event, such as a tour of the AMC museum. Unfortunately, due to the government. The museum is closed. The museum is normally open on Thursday. Will see if/when the government reopens.

First come, first served to join the tour! Contact Mike now, do not wait until Thursday.

### **MOAA News:**

Military retirees, Social Security recipients, and others receiving federal funds with a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) should learn the amount of that increase for 2026 next week ... but a look at the figures so far gives a good indication where COLA will end up.

Should inflation trends continue, expect an adjustment **between 2.7% and 2.8%** for the coming year – outpacing this year's 2.5% figure, but below other recent annual increases of 3.2%, 8.7%, and 5.9%. This projection <u>mirrors others made</u> after the release of August's inflation figures, which showed a 2.8% yearly change in the Consumer Price Index for Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

One important caveat: The Bureau of Labor Statistics has suspended operations, to include announcements and website updates, during the federal shutdown. The September CPI-W figure -- the final figure required for the 2026 calculations -- would not be announced Oct. 15 as

scheduled if the funding lapse continues.

This adjustment preserves the value of uniformed retirement and VA disability pay in the face of inflation. That's why MOAA tracks COLA: It's a key part of ensuring service-earned benefits remain strong ... and it has come under significant threat in the past.



Figure 1 Secretary Karen Berrt

# **Community News:**

WE HAVE A SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS! See MOAA FB page for photos of the event! Many of us attended, Doug Hudson and Bill Withers were part of the ceremony.

## **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.

### 23 Oct at 1300 Tour of the Medical Exam Facility See details above.

### November 20: MG Benson, TAG on the DNG

Table of Honor
Food Drive
Shrimp Parmigiana (with spaghetti) - \$31
Baked Ravioli (topped with mozzarella sauce) - \$30
Fettuccine with carbonara (with eggs, ham, onion and bacon with a touch of cream) - \$31

### 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 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 -

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

<u>Waiting to confirm dates:</u> 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: <a href="https://dovermoaa.org/chapter-membership">https://dovermoaa.org/chapter-membership</a>.

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

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,

Newsletter Editor