



Dovermoaa.org)

April 2023

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

Dinner Meeting April 18, 2024

(Donation to Airman's Attic gratefully accepted on Base)

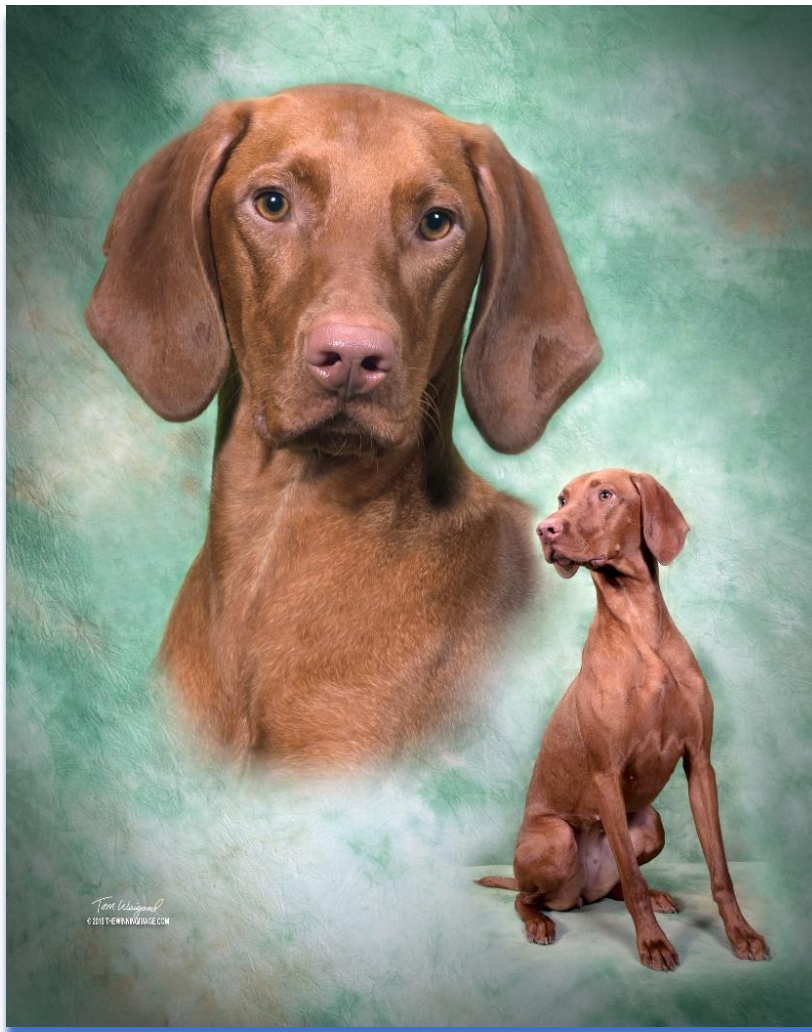


Figure 1 We have a headshot of all guest speakers, you didn't expect anything less for Dolly, did you?

Program:

Quillen's DelMarVa Doll aka "Dolly" will demonstrate the benefits of Therapy Dog work.

Dolly is an almost 9 year old Hungarian Vizsla. See photos of her doing therapy dog work at the end of the newsletter.

Menu:

Fettuccine with Chicken and Vegetables in white sauce \$33
Ziti alla Vodka sauce \$33
Veal Parmigiana with Spaghetti (red sauce) \$34

Add \$3.00 for sodas;

Tell Tom if decaf, coffee or tea when you order.

Above meals includes salad, bread, coffee/tea and tip but not dessert or adult beverages.

Bar not extensive, wine and beer easiest. Wine by bottle, can take home what you don't consume.

Remember: our contract calls for a meal selection of 3 items, known in advance, and a 25% tip. As always, and as recently discussed, if you have dietary concerns about the menu selections, please let Tom know what you will eat instead. Add the \$3 if you having non-alcohol beverage, and the 25% tip. Tom will call in all items at once. Pay Tom at the door. Thanks!

I try to get a "variety" of "clean" vs red or white sauce, plus chicken, fish, and a pasta. Its hard with the menu at Franco's. However if I really miss the mark, like the "spicy" meal I selected last time, please let me know so I will remove it from rotation.

Call (301) 904-0228 or email rotorhead65@aol.com to confirm your attendance and select your meal with Tom Smith by noon Jan 16th. (note 301 exchange, not 301)

Location: Franco's Dover

<https://francospizzadover.com/>

Address, directions, menu on website

Agenda:

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

Community News:

Commissioner Doug Hudson arranged for a recognition ceremony for William Bieber on Tuesday March 26th from 10:00 - 10:30 at the Dover AFB AMC Museum. It took Doug some time putting this event together. He expressed gratitude for and thanks to museum director John Taylor and his wonderful staff of volunteers for helping to make this event special. Doug did this as a favor to Senator Coon's.

About Mr. Bieber

William Bieber, of Watsonstown, Pennsylvania, was a seventeen-year-old farm boy when he volunteered to serve in the Army Air Corps during WWII. He was called into active service on January 22nd, 1944, and soon left for training stints in Florida and California.

William was assigned to the 27th Bombardment Squadron, 30th Bombardment Group and headed to the Pacific to serve as a ball turret gunner on the B-24 Liberator.

WE THE Veterans Day at Leg Hall on March 28. Success for the short amount of time it was planned. We donated \$200 and received recognition for our contribution.



Figure 2 How many Dover MOAA members can you find in this picture? Did you get 5? NOPE, you are short by one, Russ, leftmost, 2d row joined after our last meeting. Welcome Russ!

Chamber of Commerce Upcoming Events:

Remember we belong to the Chamber! Register for events via Chamber Website. We sponsored the Military Affaire, it was quite nice!

Golf outing is upcoming—we normally sponsor a Tee for \$100. Do we want to do this again this year? The sign has the MOAA name and logo on it.

Chapter News:

DUES! It's PAST that time of year again....We are holding our rate to \$15.00

While you are in a giving mood, don't forget to [click this link](#) to donate to Wreaths Across America. The chapter receives \$5 for every wreath you buy if you use this link. Consider donations of Wreaths for Christmas gifts for folks who don't want any more "stuff" in their homes!

JROTC Fundraiser. We made \$300 at the meal fundraiser at Franco's. Please continue to share and donate using the link on the Dover MOAA website. More than \$600 has been raised online

so far. <https://dovermoaa.org/annual-jrotc-fundraiser> is the link to donate online. You get an instant “thanks” for your taxes and save Treasurer Tom some work!

JROTC Scholarship packets are in, all of them are from First State Military Academy. JROTC Chair Vince Orlando needs some help:

I have confirmed names and dates for MOAA presentations at high schools and getting certificates printed up.

1. First State Military Academy. 25 April. Vince will cover down on this one.
2. Smyrna High School. 1 May. Vince’s alma mater so he will cover down on this one.
3. Dover High School 1 May 1800. Need someone to cover down on this one.
4. Caesar Rodney 14 May 1730. Need someone to cover down on this one.

Advocacy:

Advocacy in Action is now ongoing. Here is the link to learn more about it.

<https://www.moaa.org/content/take-action/advocacy-in-action-2024/>

SB 201 Sponsor: Buckson, Eric (LegHall) <eric.buckson@delaware.gov>

Though Bill, Doug, and Jason spoke eloquently at the public hearing last month, it seems that SB 201 has gone into a desk drawer never to see the light of day again. The reason? The “cost not worth the benefit.” Regardless, Jason wrote the below letter and we will see if it moves the bill forward. The addresses on the below are interactive, should you want to pen your own letter.

From: Gmail <rxjslavoski@gmail.com>
Date: April 16, 2024 at 09:02:22 EDT
To: David.Sokola@delaware.gov, Bryan.Townsend@delaware.gov,
Elizabeth.Lockman@delaware.gov, Sarah.McBride@delaware.gov,
Marie.Pinkney@delaware.gov, Gerald.Hocker@delaware.gov, Brian.Pettyjohn@delaware.gov
Subject: Request for release of SB201-SA1 from Committee

Honorable Members of the Senate Executive Committee,

I am writing to respectfully request the release of Delaware Senate Bill 201-SA1 (SB201-SA1) from the Senate Executive Committee for further consideration.

SB201-SA1, which proposes a phased increase in the exemption for military pensions from state income taxation, is of significant importance to our military community. By gradually increasing the exemption to \$25,000 for all military pensioners, regardless of age, this bill demonstrates our State's commitment to supporting those who have served our nation. SB201-SA1 not only acknowledges the sacrifices servicemembers have made, but it also helps to attract and retain skilled and dedicated individuals within our state. Moreover, it serves as a token of gratitude for the invaluable service and contributions of our veterans and active-duty personnel. Finally, the bill rectifies an unintentional exclusion of two military service branches and aligns State legislation with U.S. Code.

Releasing SB201-SA1 from the Senate Executive Committee would allow for broader discussion and consideration by the full Senate, ultimately advancing the interests of our military personnel, veterans, and all Delawareans. SB201-SA1 has overwhelming, bipartisan support from members of the active and retired military communities as well as both chambers of the Delaware legislature. I urge you to support the release of SB201 and facilitate its progress through the legislative process.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any further information.

Very respectfully,
Jason Slavoski, PharmD
LT, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps
Division, Ready Reserve
Rxjslavoski@gmail.com
[570-262-8818](tel:570-262-8818)

Ironically, Caesar Rodney Institute has just released its “grades” for the State of Delaware. You will see in the following link <https://files.constantcontact.com/ffb41090101/1dc65e41-a06b-4c7d-bf60-8892329c0930.pdf?rdr=true> that one of the poor areas is that older folks are moving in, and younger folks are leaving. SB 201 would be a great way to reverse that trend, we just can’t seem to make Leg Hall see it.

There were many bills kicked around regarding military, not sure if all of them made it. Here is one, **HB 30, which would remove the 3 year waiting period for 100 percent disabled veterans to get reduced property taxes.** That one is still alive and supported by the CDDD. It was initiated by a national MOAA member.

In the meanwhile, Commissioner Doug provides this information about HR 5796 Protecting Rural Senior Access to Care Act relative to the DVH Eagles Law arbitrary staffing requirement.
https://delawarestatenews-de.newsmemory.com/?publink=3152c24e7_134d242

Future Meetings:

May 16 – JROTC Awards Banquet

Personal Pizza, Veggie Deluxe Broccoli, mushroom, zucchini, onion, green pepper, tomato, ricotta cheese, mozzarella cheese, touch of garlic \$23
Grilled Shrimp Salad \$25
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce \$29

September 19—Incarcerated Vets (Bill Witham will host)

Fettuccine with Shrimp & Mushrooms in a white sauce \$32
Baked Lasagna, \$31
Grilled Chicken Salad, no sides \$22

October 17, 2024—Program TBD

Fettuccine with Chicken and Vegetables in white sauce \$33
Ziti alla Vodka sauce \$33
Veal Parmigiana with Spaghetti (red sauce) \$34

Photos of Therapy Dog Dolly:



Figure 3 with Don at the DVH

Figure 4 Not Therapy Dog work, this is Rally

Figure 5 Dolly at Del State "DeStress Day."

Figure 6 Dolly at Town Point Elementary School when they read "Clifford the Big Red Dog."



The Gateway

Issue #36

December 2017

In this issue of ***The Gateway***, learn more about: our [HelpLine services](#), a new [FTD study by Biogen](#), our [7th Annual With Love Campaign](#), the [benefits of therapy dogs](#), upcoming [FTD-related events](#) in your local community, and [recent resources](#) that you won't want to miss.

Words of Encouragement

Therapy Dog to the Rescue

By Eugenia Thornton, Delaware

Although he had lived in the nursing home for more than a year, when I visited my husband, I would still tear up at least once -- on a good day. On bad days, I fled his ward and burst into tears in the hallway. Too frequently, I sat in my car until my sobs abated and I could drive away safely.

But once I began taking my dog along on those visits, the crying jags were replaced with a sense of purpose that revolves around helping others rather than wallowing in sorrow.

My dog supports me physically and emotionally: I take her for a long walk before entering the building as a calming measure. My preoccupation with her allows me to focus on others -- first forcing a smile, then genuinely feeling a reason to smile.

If I go and my husband is asleep or not feeling up to a visit, I'll walk the dog down the hall to meet some other residents or cheer up the staff. Petting a dog releases the "love hormone," oxytocin, which alleviates pain and improves mood. No visit is ever wasted!

Many organizations offer a certificate suitable for framing once you've documented a certain number of visits with your dog. Looking at my dog's American Kennel Club Therapy Dog Title Certificate (earned for 100 visits), I smile. I no longer dwell on what I've lost to this disease, but instead focus on the joy that ensues when my dog wags her way through the nursing home.



Gene's husband, Don with
their Vizsla, Dolly





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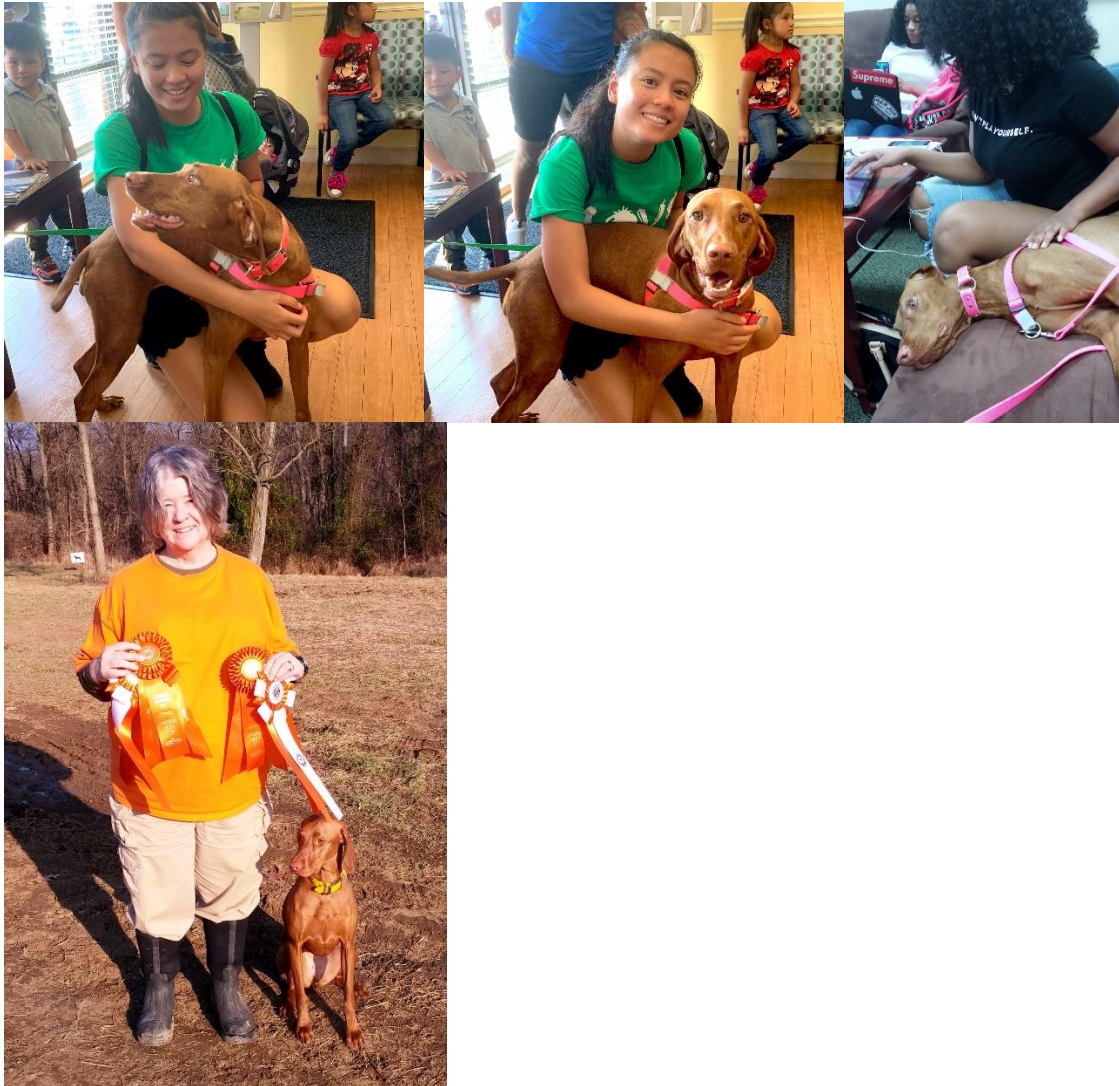


Figure 7 At Westside Clinic at Family Health Day, Figure 8 At Wesley College on Exam Week, calming down the students. Figure 9 Not therapy work for humans, therapy work for herself, she is a hunting dog by nature.

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>

Our lazy newsletter editor, JB, has been relaxing by the fire instead of attending to duties. If anyone wants to replace him, he will step down. There is no requirement to have as cute a face or as fuzzy a tubby tummy as JB to be our newsletter editor.

Never Stop Serving,

Gene

Eugenia "Gene" Thornton
Dover Chapter President



Dear everyone, I have enjoyed being your newsletter editor; however, mom said after this time, I could no longer serve in this capacity. Mom says there is a MOAA member who is willing to take on this task and I am sure you will all be relieved to hear that! This will be my last Newsletter. Here, if you want to thank me for my hard work, you can rub my belly just one time! JUST ONCE! Don't take liberties with my belly, please!

Respectfully submitted,

JB

Newsletter Editor