



Dovermoaa.org

Aug/Sept 2023

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

Dinner Meeting

When: Thursday, Sept 21, 2023

Program: Dr. Hilary Welliver, Kent County Librarian

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/hilary-welliver-70679a7a>

Location: Green Turtle, Dover

gt dover@thegreenturtle.com

Address: 391 N Dupont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901

Phone: (302) 264-9612



Menu:

See attached PDF for menu selections and warning about it being COLD in the room, and not getting “rear ended” when you approach the entrance—its IMMEDIATELY after the Mission BBQ building and it “sneaks up on you” as my father used to say. BE CAREFUL.

Please call Tom Smith at 301-904-0228 or email him rotorhead65@aol.com to tell him your menu selections. Note discussion of coffee and tea and Veterans discounts on the pdf about the menu please.

Agenda:

5:00 pm Social Time

6:00 pm Grace, Pledge, Intro guests, meal is served.

7:00 pm Program
7:30 pm Biz meeting
8:00 pm Adjournment/pay for drinks, if required
8:01 retire to bar, if desired, continue conversation.

Our Speaker



County Librarian, Assistant Director of Community Services

[Kent County Levy Court](#)

Apr 2009 - Present 14 years 4 months

Kent County, Delaware

Shortly after accepting the post of County Librarian, tackled the challenge of retro-fitting a new 10,200 SF library facility -- without raising taxes, floating a bond, or receiving any State construction funds. When the new library opened in July 2010, it had already received an architectural award for steel beam construction.

In addition to planning and directing all administration of Kent County's Library Division, enjoys grant-writing to secure support and funding for library goals (beyond traditional budgetary sources). Successfully wrote and administered Target, WSFS, Delaware Division of Libraries, Delaware Division of Arts, Delaware Arts & Humanities Foundation grants, and others.

First library in Kent County to offer free WiFi access, and after opening in new location the community library consistently ranked in the top ten highest-circulating libraries state-wide for four years. With support from the state library, operates a free weekly Job Center service. Other note-worthy programs include the annual Winter Carnival fund raiser, If All Kent County Read the Same Book, Authors & Audiences (a regional writers showcase), installation of Little Free Libraries throughout Kent County, and the bookmobile's summer family performance series: Arts in the Park.

Collaboration and partnerships are key to ongoing success. Serves as liaison between the County and other libraries and community organizations. Customer Service trainer for the State. Users have dubbed us, "The Friendly Library on the Highway."

Hillary is also a published author!

Chamber Events.

Reminder! MOAA is a member of the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce. You may attend any event or business opening (fun and primarily FREE--and get the inside scoop on biz in our area! And let them know about us and our JROTC scholarships, etc.) Just go to the CDCC website and look at the upcoming events. Visit <https://www.cdcc.net/> for more information and to sign up to attend. To register for events, look at the calendar, then double click the event you are interested in attending. You will be taken to an order form. MOST EVENTS ARE FREE. If there is a charge, you will be informed of that when you register. Wear MOAA nametags please!

Local Advocacy:

Delaware Veterans Commission list of Legislative Items: We continue to support all DVCA initiatives. A new list is normally published each January, but I STILL have not seen it this year so far. This was something that Ron Sarg did and without Ron, it does not seem to be getting done. I feel their pain, Ron left big shoes for them to fill—I know and appreciate that more than anyone!

NEW attempt to organize veterans. I told you I attended several meetings hosted by Dave Lawson to organize us. He put it well: “Veterans in Delaware have many boots on the ground. We have to figure out how to get all those boots pointing in the right direction!” Our group came up with the suggestion to create a Department of Veterans Affairs. Now, that cry has been taken up by many. A new group met in Millsboro and you can read about it on the attached PDF.

Our chapter supported two issues.

VICTORY! HB 26 passed! Here are the details.

<https://legis.delaware.gov/BillDetail/129892#:~:text=Bill%20Details&text=This%20Act%20provi des%20state%20employees,reserves%20or%20Delaware%20National%20Guard.>

Many Dover MOAA members worked on this issue so WELL DONE, everyone!

HB 30. See attached. Current status of this bill is NOT PASSED

<https://legis.delaware.gov/BillDetail?LegislationId=129896>

Our Chapter on an ongoing basis is watching the Delaware Veterans Home. Much has been written, another negative article appeared in the Delaware State News detailing how the Eagles Law (the law that sets the ratio of nursing staff to resident) was allowed to stay at Covid Emergency numbers for the simple reason they cannot retain staff in the DVH.

The Secretary of State is quoted in the paper saying that the pay is too low. However, he is in charge and he has never, not one time, asked Leg Hall to increase pay, or never has he exercised his authority to use the top half of the pay sliding scale vs. the bottom. This last

sentence is based on what I was told by many, but I have not found anything official that backs it up.

I attended a Soldier Support Fundraiser (benefitting the Sergeants Club on base) and bid on and won lunch for four hosted by the Lt. Governor. Since then, she announced she will run for Governor. I plan to address the DVH with her, also the military pay 100 percent issue, also the Secretary of Veterans Affairs issue. I am taking Doug Hudson and the woman who started the petition about the DVH with me to lunch. Cross your fingers it goes well!

<https://legis.delaware.gov/FindMyLegislator>

National MOAA News:

Chapter News:

JRTOC: We are back starting a new cycle. Chair Theo and Webmaster Kerry teamed up to add a donation link to our webpage! This will make it very easy to seek donations for our scholarships. We contracted with Green Turtle to host our fundraiser since we have not gotten the check from Romas, as of this writing. Green Turtle will give us 20percent of everything, but the price point for meals is lower there, so our donation will be less. On the brighter side, they are open for lunch every day, so more opportunity for people to come in.

Here is the link: <https://dovermoaa.org/annual-jrotc-fundraiser>

Wreaths across America. Our Chapter link is:

<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/166217>

Dover MOAA has its own webpage and this is an easy way to make money for our chapter. As November approaches, let's use social media to promote OUR PAGE to our friends and family. You can use this link in your FB or in emails.



Our President in the News: The Delaware State News featured me again regarding the shutdown of Levy Court. This gave me another chance to remind the public to sign up for our FREE property fraud alert system at PFA.uslandrecords.com.

Carlton in the news! Carlton was named a Purple Heart Patriot. Well done, Carlton. We want to hear more about your trip to NYC>

Bill Welser continues his work as Chair of Museum Annex project. Bill will be our speaker in November.



Programs—Let us know when you hear an exciting speaker! Let us know if you would like to be the Program Chair!

DUES! It's PAST that time of year again....We are holding our rate to \$15.00 Here is how you can pay on line from Treasurer Tom Smith. Paying Chapter Dues Online: Dover Chapter dues are \$15 per year for Regular Members and \$10 per year for Surviving Spouses. Chapter members have the option of paying their annual dues online with a credit or debit card.

Go to the MOAA website at www.moaa.org, log-in, click on "Chapters", under "FAST ACCESS->Chapter Members", click on "Pay dues online", drop down to "Join/Renew Your Local Chapter", then down to "Getting Started" and follow the prompts. (If you can't log-in, go to www.moaa.org, click on "About MOAA", click on "Councils and Chapters", and then follow the directions above.) You can pay for multiple years if you like, up to three years. You can also donate, up to \$500, to the Chapter Scholarship Fund through this system.

There are a few restrictions however. You cannot pay for chapter dinners with a credit card. (Cash or check only please.) You cannot pay your national MOAA dues through this program. (National MOAA has its own credit card payment system.) Surviving spouses may not use this system. After you pay your dues through this system, you will receive an e-mail confirmation from national MOAA, and another e-mail from the Chapter Treasurer.

Remember, this is only an option! If you prefer, you may pay your chapter dues by check through the mail (mail to: Dover MOAA, P. O. Box 122, Dover, DE 19903), or by cash or check at one of our chapter meetings. (For your information, non-members may use this same system to join the chapter.) If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Treasurer, LCDR Tom Smith, USN-Ret at 301-904-0228 or email him rotorhead65@aol.com.

Change of Meeting Venue is firm. I wrote a letter to Romas hoping against hope they would want to renegotiate with us to keep us, but I saw Kristen after she received the letter and she spoke to me warmly, but did not mention anything—not "why not take your flags" and also not "why not talk about lowering our price." In the meanwhile, Frazier's is under new management, so they might be a place we can meet if Green Turtle does not work out. Frazier's was not taking on any new groups previously, perhaps because they knew they were selling.

Future Meetings:

October 19: Tentative Back by popular demand! Dr. Reba Hollingsworth – topic: Explore your family history (Reba will speak either in Oct or Jan. Senator Buckson wants to speak to us but he cannot do Oct 19, so I am in the process of asking Dr. Reba to come in Oct v Jan.)

Nov 16 (Table of Honor, Delaware Food Bank), Speaker Bill Welser, President AMC Museum Foundation, “Be part of our Legacy! Heritage, Education, Restoration Expansion.” Please review very nice article in the *Delaware Living* magazine, August 2023 issue.

Dec 21—Holiday Party (Toys via a charity) – **what entertainer do you want this year?**

Jan 18

Tentative Senator Eric Buckson, member of the Veterans Committee.

Feb 15 (JROTC Fundraiser) – no program, order from menu, INVITE GUESTS!!!! Green Turtle

March 21: Cdr. Pat Cerchio “History of Women in the US Military and Accomplishments of Delaware Women”

April 18 – (Buckson if I can’t work the switch between him and Dr. Reba)

May 16 – JROTC Awards Banquet



Scenes from Advocacy in Action

Our Newsletter editor was asleep on the job again, and he lost the photos I took from when I went to DC in April. He finally found them! **He was lying on them!** Here they are:





MOAA
Military Officers Association of America
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Don't forget to tag MOAA in your posts!
Facebook - @MOAA
Instagram - @moaa
LinkedIn - MOAA
Twitter - @moaa



2023
Team Pack























Military Officers Association of America



2022

Col Marvin J. Harris Communications Award
5 Star

Dover Chapter
Newsletter

COL Eugenia Thornton, USA (Ret), Newsletter Editor

4/27/2022
Date

B.T. Kelly
Lt Gen Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret)
President, MOAA

Military Officers Association of America



2022

Col Marvin J. Harris Communications Award 5 Star

Dover Chapter
Website

Mrs. Kerry L. Brooks, Webmaster

4/27/2022
Date

B.T. Kelly
Lt Gen Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret)
President, MOAA

As of Mar 31, 2023 Number of Chapter Members



Note: Data was not available by affiliate type for 2019 and 2020. For 2023 satellite members included in chapter number

Three-year trend
Green: Stable/growth
Yellow: Loss of 100-500
Red: Loss of >500









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>

Never Stop Serving,

Gene

Eugenia "Gene" Thornton
Dover Chapter President