



Fort George G. Meade Chapter

Officers Call



Jan/Feb 2016

Five Star Chapter Award 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014



Presidents Message

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah and Happy New Year! I hope to see everyone at our next luncheon on Thursday Jan 7th, 2016 at Club Meade at 11:30 AM when our very own 2nd Vice President LTC Bryon Hartzog, USA-Retired and lately of Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab will bring us up to date on cyber security with tips you can implement on your own home computers.

Also in this newsletter we will highlight a couple of the organizations your chapter supports with cash donations and through the hours donated by chapter volunteers. Operation Welcome Home (OWH) and the USO at BWI and on Ft Meade are worthy charities that support our troops. Please consider volunteering some of your time to one or both of these outstanding organizations.

Our schedule for 2016 is listed below (subject to change) and don't forget to get your inputs into the Chapter Officers (listed on the right hand side) on the ideal date to travel to Gettysburg, PA for a day of history and fun.

Finally consider becoming more involved in your chapter. Your chapter depends on it. We currently need a Public Affairs Officer and a newsletter editor. Our newsletter is our lifeline for chapter members.

Andrew M Veronis PhD
Brig. Gen., USAF (Ret)

2016 Schedule

Luncheon/Dinner meeting schedule*

Thursday 3 Mar 2016 11:30 AM Club Meade – Luncheon Alaina Matthews is our invited guest speaker/awaiting confirmation

Thursday 5 May 2016 Club Meade – Dinner Meeting 6:30 PM. Guest Speaker Mr. George Owings, MD Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Thursday 1 Sept 2016 11:30 AM Club Meade – Luncheon

Thursday 3 Nov 2016 11:30 AM Club Meade – Luncheon

* Gettysburg trip may be substituted on one of the luncheon dates or done on a weekend.

Chapter Officers

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Wreaths Across America



The annual Wreaths Across America at Arlington National Cemetery and various Veterans cemeteries across the nation took place Saturday December 12th.

USO BWI Magazine/Book Drive

We have wrapped up deliveries and donations (no pun intended) to the BWI USO for 2015. As of December 18th donations to the USO at BWI total: 1,134 magazines, 55 paperback books and 150 hard cover books. Food donations total \$299.65. Let's get 2016 started by leaving your excess magazines, books and food donations with Rebecca Conover at the January 7th luncheon meeting at Club Meade for delivery to BWI. Remember to leave a business card or note with your name so all donations may be recognized with a donation in kind form. Special thanks to Captain Norm Henry Taylor, LTC George Ruggles and LTC Chuck Brown for their generous donations throughout the year. And thank you FGGM/MOAA members for your support.

Speaking of the USO most of you are aware of the USO International Gateway Lounge at BWI Marshall Airport. The lounge is open 6 AM to 10 PM daily. Please contact Midge Matlock-Williams at 410-859-3890 or by e-mail: midge@uso.metro.org for volunteer opportunities.

The USO on Ft Meade serves our active-duty troops and their families located at 8612 6th Armored Cavalry Road. It is open 9AM to 5PM Monday thru Friday. Shawn Sabia is the USO Center Director and can be reached at (410)-305-4138 or by e-mail: shawn@usometro.org and he will be happy to discuss volunteering with you. Or: <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/ap?ap=865735279> to volunteer.



Operation Welcome Home (OWH)

The last event for 2015 is scheduled for December 29th at 5:00PM. Barbara and Sue are your team leaders. All events occur in the International Terminal, Pier E of BWI Marshall airport. On the day of the event call the OWH hotline at 410-630-1555 to verify the event is still on or to receive a change in times. Light Rail is the easiest way to get to BWI and it drops you at the International Terminal. Meet the OWH volunteers on the lower level of the terminal. If driving to BWI, park anywhere in the hourly garage and bring your parking ticket inside for validation by the OWH team. For safety reasons use either the skywalk on level 6 or the upper level crossing on level 5. The website for Operation Welcome Home is: www.operationwelcomehomemd.org

The web site has the schedule for OWH flights. This a wonderful opportunity to volunteer and let the troops know how much they are appreciated.

Drivers needed

The following chapter members offer rides to meetings with prior arrangements.

Eleanor Layman (410)-766-5732 from Elkridge to luncheon or dinner meetings.

John Whitman (410)-551-0528 from Severn/Odenton to dinners or luncheons when he is available.

LTC Bryon Hartzog (240)-228-3113 (W) from Laurel during normal duty hours for luncheons and from Eldersburg, MD (non duty hours or weekends).

Jim Shiffrin (410)-766-5732 from Severn (Quarterfield Rd area) to luncheons.

We can always use additional drivers for luncheons or dinners. Contact Eleanor Layman to volunteer and advise of your availability. And if you require a ride to the meeting don't be bashful about contacting the above listed individuals.

Newsletter Editor needed

The chapter needs a new newsletter editor now. Additional duties are printing programs for the luncheon/dinner meetings as well as e-mailing the bi-monthly newsletter to those members on e-mail (approx 125) and mailing about 20 hard copy newsletters to those members without e-mail. This may very well be the last printed newsletter for the chapter unless we get some new blood to step forward. If we can't keep a newsletter going out in a timely manner then it's just a slow downward spiral until the chapter dissolves! Contact General Veronis to volunteer. You will have assistance until you are comfortable going solo on this project.

Tops in Blue nixed in 2016 Air Force News | Dec 22, 2015

WASHINGTON -- [Air Force](#) officials announced on Dec. 21 that Tops in Blue, the service-unique entertainment program, will cancel its 2016 season, allowing an extended review of the program.

Over the last year, submissions to the Air Force's Airmen Powered by Innovation program reflected recommendations to cancel Tops in Blue because of the required manpower and associated cost. Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James noted the topic was often a discussion during her base all calls with Airmen.

**The Fort George G. Meade Chapter of
The Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 743
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-0743**



**www.mdmoaa.org
MOAA Luncheon Meeting**

Thursday January 7th, 2016 at Club Meade
Speaker is our own LTC Bryon Hartzog, USA-Retired
Bring a friend or prospective member to the meeting!

Cost: \$17.00 per person.

Join us at the Club Meade at 6600 Mapes Ave on Ft Meade. Menu: Reuben Sandwich or baked fish, parfait desert.

Name(s) _____

Total Reservations _____ Check enclosed for total amount _____

Phone number: _____ e-mail: _____

Please mail reservations and checks payable to FGGM/MOAA to:

Rebecca Conover relic1241@gmail.com

9214 Log Chain Road

Columbia, MD 21045 (410)-964-3237

Reservations required by Monday January 3, 2016. If you make reservations but are a no-show for the luncheon payment will still be required to the chapter.