



Chapter Chatter

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America

P.O Box 707

Clinton, Maryland 20735



November/December 2015

President's Corner

Since this is a combined November and December newsletter let me begin by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope this holiday season brings you good fellowship, happy tidings and wonderful times with family and friends and 2016 continues to bless you with good health and prosperity.

This past October I was honored to represent our chapter at the annual convention in Orlando, Florida. As you may know we received the 4 Star Level of Excellence Award at the convention. This is the first time our chapter has been recognized by MOAA National for service to our community, our state and national organization and our commitment to sustained excellence. This is a direct result of your commitment to our chapter and work you do to support our goal to be one of the best chapters in Maryland. I thank you for your service and time to making our chapter what it is today.



Col Duane DeVance receiving 4 Star Level of Excellence Award from MOAA National Representative

As we end this year and begin 2016 I would like to highlight a few important items on our calendar of events. First is our annual Christmas/Holiday Party on December 19th at Mama Stella's Restaurant in Clinton. Our special guest will be Chesapeake Bronze back again to entertain us with a medley of Christmas and Holiday songs with their magical bells. In addition to our musical program we are also going to institute a new tradition for our chapter by asking each our attendees to bring a selection of non-perishable food items

to be donated to the Enlisted Food Panty to support the families of our military members E6 and below at JB Andrews. Please be as generous as you can and thank you for your support. **Please mark your calendar** for this special event and as always you and your family are cordially invited to attend.

On Jan 13th the Maryland General Assembly will convene in Annapolis and our MOAA state leaders along with our Maryland Military Coalition will again engage the assembly to enhance the benefits to our veterans and active duty members in the state. Last year these groups were able to lobby successfully to raise the retirement pay MD income tax exemption to 10 percent for those over 62. This year they will continue to work for additional enhancement to this legislation. Governor Hogan is on record to increase the military retirement exemption to 100 percent during his term but he will need our support in this endeavor. Please be aware that at times we may be asked to contact our representatives and to attend legislative sessions to show our support.

After our Christmas/Holiday meeting we will begin our winter meeting recess with no meetings in January and February. On March 19th we will reconvene with a meeting and luncheon. The location and time for this meeting will be announced early next year. We will meet again in April and May before we begin our summer break.

I would like to remind everyone that it is time to collect chapter dues for 2016. Your membership in our chapter is very important and your timely payment of dues is vital to ensuring our ability to sustain our chapter. Annual dues are only \$25.00 and can be paid either to our chapter (check sent to Col Steve Regner or at our Holiday Party) or you can go to **MOAA.org** and click on **Chapter and Councils** and then on the block **Chapter Dues** and pay your dues on line. Members who joined our Chapter after June 2015 are exempt from dues until 2017. Please pay your dues as soon as possible but no later than 15 Jan 2016.

Lastly, I am including in this newsletter the phone number and email address of the chapter officers for your information. Please feel free to contact any of our officers should you have any questions, suggestions or need information about any MOAA program or service.

I am excited about the future of our chapter and hope that you can join me as we look to build and grow our chapter. Again, I wish you the best for the season and in 2016. I hope to see you at our Christmas Meeting on December 19th at Mama Stella's at 11:30 in Clinton.

Sincerely,

Duane

Bits and Pieces

Wreaths Across America On 12 Dec Wreaths across America (WAA) will conduct their annual wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond. Their mission is to Remember, Honor, Teach, They also organize a week of events including international veteran's tributes, ceremonies at State Houses and a week-long "Veteran's Parade" between Maine and Virginia where they stop along the way to spread our message about the importance of remembering our fallen heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms. More information about this annual event and to volunteer to assist in wreath laying ceremonies in the local area please visit their website at:

www.wreathscrossamerica.org.

Chapter Board Members



Chapter Chatter



President – COL Duane DeVance – CP – 301-793-4293, email – dcdevance@gmail.com
1st Vice President – COL Ronnie Bagley – CP – 770-490-2874, email
2nd Vice President – COL Harvey Dickerson – HP - 703-889-5240, email – skiharvey@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer/Legislative Affairs – Col Steven Regner – HP- 301-877-0978, email – shreg01@aol.com
Membership – LTC Hazel Robinson – HP – 301-437-1920, email – hrobin8276@aol.com
Auxillary – Tawanda DeVance – Unavailable at this time – contact via Col D. DeVance

Calendar of Events

November 2015

No meeting

11 Nov – Veterans Day
26 Nov - Thanksgiving

December 2015

12 Dec - Wreaths Across America – Arlington National Cemetery
19 Dec – Monthly luncheon and annual Holiday Party at 11:30 – Mama Stella’s Restaurant, Clinton MD.
Special Guest – Chesapeake Bronze
1st Annual Food Drive
25 Dec – Christmas

January 2016

No meeting

1 Jan – New Years Day
13 Jan – Apr 11 - Maryland General Assembly convenes
18 Jan – Martin Luther King Day

February 2016

No meeting

15 Feb – President’s Day

March 2016

19 Mar - Monthly meeting and Luncheon – Location and Time TBA
27 Mar - Easter

April 2016

16 Apr – Monthly meeting and Luncheon – Location and Time TBA

May 2016

21 May – Monthly meeting and Luncheon – Location and Time TBA

21 May – Armed Forces Day

30 May – Memorial Day

PRINCE GEORGE'S CHAPTER MEETING

Next Scheduled Meeting is on 19 December 2016

At 1130

Mama Stella's Restaurant

Clinton MD

***Annual Christmas/Holiday Party
Special Guest - Chesapeake Bronze
1st Annual Food Drive***

RSVP to Col Steven Regner by **17 December 2015**

Home Phone (301) 877-0978

Cell Phone (301) 885-8369

E-mail: shreg01@aol.com