



Military Officers Association of America

SOUTHERN MARYLAND CHAPTER

P. O. Box 84

NAS Patuxent River, MD 20670

<https://www.facebook.com/SoMdMOAA>

(443) 486-0150

somdmooa@gmail.com

The
SOUTHERN MARYLAND
NEWSLETTER



2007-2009-2010-2012-2013-2014 September 2015

President's Corner

Ladies and gentlemen,

As I write this, it seems the hot weather has finally broken and we're in for the turn of the season. Here in Southern Maryland, that means things just get that much busier!

Your board was planning to have a member benefits event in September, but I have to be honest with you: setting up a successful event in which we draw a crowd is really challenging. Venue is the first issue. Free, large venues are very difficult to come by. The second issue is engaging a speaker, or group of speakers. There are tons of them available, but they always want to know how many to expect. That's the third issue: audience. Even an exaggerated answer of "Maybe twenty?" is met with resistance. With our very limited resources, we have a very hard time creating a stand-alone event that will generate enough interest to bring out members and guests. So I've chosen to instead hold a board meeting in September, in which we'll continue the conversation from our July board meeting while discussing what I now propose as an October chapter meeting.

I really want to hear from you: what are your ideas for increasing our visibility and engaging current/prospective members? The thought occurred to me that rather than have the crowd come to us, let's go to where

the crowd is already. High school football games will have military members attending their children's games, and the numerous festivals and events that fill the calendar in our area are always well attended. Perhaps we ought to engage on a smaller scale more often. It seems it might be more sustainable, but I want to hear from you. Please write me at navyphilip@me.com or call my mobile at 443-975-9230.

I also want to share with you a little about the future of our military officer corps. I have the privilege this semester of teaching Ethics and Moral Reasoning to a group of 15 midshipmen at the Naval Academy. I've got the best group of midshipmen around! They are so much more engaged and thoughtful than I was when I was in their position. It is really a rewarding experience for me, and if you are looking for an opportunity to engage yourself, there are lots of opportunities. You can spend the next 8 months earning your open ocean yachting license, then skipper a 44 foot sailboat with a midshipman crew to several East Coast ports next summer, all free of charge. You just have to volunteer. Contact me for details if you are interested in making a commitment to better our military officer corps.

That's enough for today. I hope you are well, and I wish you all the best.

Very respectfully,
CDR Phil Campbell, USN

Legislative Affairs

The 17th of September is the next Maryland Council of Chapters' Legislative Luncheon in Washington, DC. The four issue/fact sheets attached to this month's email detail National and MD Council MOAA concerns. Details of the event will be discussed at the October meeting and October newsletter.

2015 SoMD MOAA Chapter Calendar

(Details subject to change)

19 Sep– **Board** Mtg – Membership Engagement & Holiday Celebration Planning @ Pax River Naval Aviation Museum

17 Oct TBD – **Chapter** Mtg – TBD @ Pax River Naval Aviation Museum

14 Nov 1300 – Chapter Mtg – Holiday Celebration @ Café Des Artistes, Leonardtown

08 Dec TBD – Board Mtg – 2016 Planning Session @ location TBD

Board Meeting 19 September

This month's board meeting will occur at the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum. Details to follow via email notification.

2012 O'Neill Award Winner Update

On June 18, 2015, Army LTC Gregory Fortier relinquished command of the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School to Marine LtCol Timothy Davis during a change of command ceremony at Naval Air Station Patuxent River.



For those who can recall back to November 2012, then Major Davis was the winner of the Admiral Merlin O'Neill Officer of the Year Award. Major Davis was assigned to VX-23 where he was the Airborne Electronic Attack Project Department Head. He has a BS Degree in Ocean Engineering from the Naval Academy, a Master's Degree in Systems Engineering from Johns Hopkins University, and a PhD in Systems Engineering from George Washington University. During his off-duty hours, Major Davis conducted weekly postgraduate classes for Johns Hopkins Masters students and often acts as their thesis advisor. In addition, he worked with the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum to develop an electronic warfare display. The chapter normally gives a \$500 Savings Bond to the O'Neill Award Winner, but Major Davis requested instead that a donation be made to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Well Done, LtCol Davis!



CDR Blankenship presents the 2012 O'Neill Award to Maj. Davis with Mrs. Davis in attendance