



Heartland of America Chapter

-- **We Never Stop Serving** --
-- **We Are One Powerful Voice** --
--- **for Every Officer at Every Stage of Life and Career** ---

***** **February 2020** *****



**Rally the Troops! It is Time for
Our State Senators to Take Action!
Keep Military Retirees in Nebraska –
A Win-Win for All Nebraskans!**

Next Dinner Meeting February 19th

(see inside back cover for details)

Check out our website at
www.heartlandMOAA.us
or call (402)339-7888

The Bulletin Board

Is the Newsletter of the Heartland of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. Content is from members, MOAA's [Take Action](#), [Legislative Action Center](#), and other military-oriented sources. Material used is public domain or attributed as to source and copyright. Our editorial policy is the same [non-partisan policy as MOAA](#).

Lt Colonel Patrick L. Jones, USAF(Ret) Editor & Webmaster - (402)650-4457

Volume XXXIV

Number 2

February 2020

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



We did not have a January dinner meeting. In previous years we have seen bad weather and difficult travel conditions resulting in low attendance at our January meetings. This year we have seen very cold temperatures, some snow, and more streets and driveways looking like ice-skating rinks, validating our decision to not have a January meeting. We will be returning to Anthony's on February 19th and our speaker will be Jeffrey Cannon, Executive Director of the SAC Museum and Aerospace Museum. Jeff is a UNL graduate, served at the Joslyn Art Museum, and later worked with the Leo A. Daly

architects during the construction of the new museum facility that opened in 1998. I have heard Jeff speak and his remarkable experience with museums across the world has already resulted in significant improvements and remarkable plans for the future in the 20 months since he returned to Nebraska.

The recently passed National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) had several provisions that are beneficial to both Active Duty (the pay raise of 3.1%) and to retirees. As our last newsletter included the article "A 40 Year Wrong Corrected," I believe all our surviving spouse members are relieved to see the end of the SBP/DIC offset. This has been an issue that we covered on every Storming the Hill since I began participating in them in 2012. Our local surviving spouses, many of whom are also Gold Star Wives, met with members of our congressional delegation in their Nebraska offices. I became aware of the intensity of feelings about this inequity at a Storming meeting when I met a widow from my hometown who had been married to a Navy Rear Admiral. She explained the very significant monetary impact this offset had on her life. I am very proud of our National office who led this repeal effort and, our Chapter's role in advocating for this change.

Our advocacy efforts at the State level appear to be paying off as well. We are cautiously optimistic that LB-153, the legislation that will exempt 50 per cent of military retired pay from Nebraska income tax will come to fruition. On January 14th, LB-153 had its first reading and received a unanimous favorable vote 46-0 and

placed on Select File. Then, on Friday, 24 Jan, it was favorably voted on and moved to Final Reading which will be done after budget votes occur. We are hopeful at that time it will be approved and sent to the Governor for signature.

Going back to the days when Joe DeCarlo and Rene Dreiling served as our president, this has been our top State priority. Over the years, several board members have testified to the Revenue Committee in support of earlier measures to exempt military retirees. Additionally, the Nebraska Veterans Coalition and Chapter member Dean Kenkel met with many members of the Unicameral to gain their support.

Please join us for our dinner meeting with Jeff Cannon on February 19th. On March 18th, Craig Jacobs will join us again to discuss the updates at the Henry Doorly Zoo.

Dan Donovan

d.donovan1@cox.net

402-339-7888

TRICARE Expands List of Drugs It Won't Cover

(from MOAA Newsletter Update, Jan 16, from article

by Karen Ruedisueli, MOAA's Director of Government Relations, Health Affairs)

Thousands of TRICARE beneficiaries are losing coverage for their medication as more drugs are dropped from the list of those approved for TRICARE coverage.

The Defense Health Agency has been excluding some prescription drugs from TRICARE coverage after the fiscal year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act included a provision allowing DHA to do so. Previously, all medications were categorized in one of three tiers – Generic, Brand Name and Non-Formulary – with varying copays for beneficiaries.

Now, drugs that DHA categorizes as “Tier 4/non-covered” are excluded from coverage under TRICARE. These Tier 4 drugs cannot be obtained at pharmacies at military treatment facilities. They also aren’t available through the TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery Program. Tier 4 drugs are only available at retail pharmacies at full out-of-pocket cost to the beneficiary. Costs for Tier 4 drugs do not apply to the annual TRICARE catastrophic cap.

For the last year, the DHA has been identifying and reviewing drugs to potentially remove them from coverage. The first round of Tier 4/non-covered drugs was announced in August 2019 and included Glumetza, Vimovo, and Lexette. Excluding these drugs had little impact on beneficiaries since very few TRICARE patients were using these prescription drugs and alternative agents were available for them. However, nearly 19,000 beneficiaries taking Dexilant to treat gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) were impacted when that drug was dropped from TRICARE coverage effective Nov. 28, 2019.

We also recently learned that DHA is considering adding brand-name erectile dysfunction drugs Viagra and Cialis to Tier 4/non-covered status, although this decision is pending approval from the DHA director.

While MOAA understands the rationale for establishing Tier 4 to improve formulary management, we are concerned about where this process is headed. We are monitoring Tier 4 drug reviews closely to ensure DHA follows congressional intent and moves to Tier 4 only those medications that “provide very little to no clinical effectiveness” per the FY 2018 NDAA legislative language.

MOAA is also pressing DHA to establish an appeals process for Tier 4 determinations.

Has the TRICARE pharmacy Tier 4/non-covered drug issue affected your health care? Please tell MOAA about it. legis@moaa.org

Join MOAA's Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

(MOAA Newsletter Update 16 Jan)

MOAA's Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee will elect three new members in 2020. Each member serves a four-year term, with the option to extend the term an additional two years. The committee, which has six members, is tasked with making recommendations to MOAA's president and CEO about key issues affecting the surviving spouse community. Committee members also participate in MOAA's annual [Storming the Hill](#) event, speak at regional council and chapter leadership workshops, write a monthly column, and present an annual Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award.

[Visit MOAA's Surviving Spouse Resources Page](#)

(<https://www.moaa.org/content/topic-and-landing-pages/i-am-a-surviving-spouse/>)

For more details and to apply, please [click here](#) to download a fillable PDF application

APPLY TO JOIN MOAA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(MOAA website, 25 Jan)

Would you like to serve on the National MOAA Board of Directors? Our own B/Gen Paul Cohen did. MOAA encourages all members with a genuine interest in serving the military community as a member of MOAA's board of directors to submit an application.

Members can download an application packet as a fillable PDF, which includes full instructions and answers to many frequently asked questions, [here](#). Get more details on the process [here](#).

In addition to the form, applicants must submit the following:

- **A summary of your qualifications to serve on the board, not to exceed two pages. This summary should highlight those aspects of your background and experience that demonstrate:**
 - **Your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a corporate board of directors;**
 - **How you will contribute to achieving the goals and objectives of MOAA's five-year strategic plan;**
 - **A working knowledge and understanding of financial, budgeting, and financial reporting of business operations;**
 - **A record of success and accomplishments in organizational leadership positions; and**
 - **The ability to communicate effectively and concisely in written and oral communications, including digital communications and social media.**
- **A one-page résumé of your service in the military, including civilian and military education; for surviving spouses, your professional experience and volunteer activities.**
- **A recent head and shoulders photograph (at least 2"x3") in civilian clothes that is suitable for publication.**
- **Confirmation of military status:**
 - **For active-duty and active status officers, a copy of a recent Leave and Earnings statement.**
 - **For retired officers and former officers, a copy of your Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.**
 - **For reserve and National Guard retirees, a copy of your retired pay order or letter of transfer to retired reserve status.**
 - **For surviving spouse members, a description of your late spouse's military service.**

Your application package must be in looseleaf form. Please do not bind the application package together, and do not staple multipage documents (use only paper clips). Completed applications and three letters of reference should be mailed to:

**Board Nominating Committee
Military Officers Association of America
201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314.**

Applications and all letters of reference must be received by March 31, 2020. Questions? Email boardapps@moaa.org or call (800) 234-MOAA (6622), ext. 167. If you call after hours, leave a voicemail message that includes the spelling of your first and last name, your phone number, and your MOAA member number.

The Process:

Applications are evaluated by a Board Nominating Committee, appointed by the board, to select the 12 nominees to be voted on by MOAA's membership. Neither incumbent directors nor association staff members may serve on the committee.

The committee's slate of nominees for board positions will be presented to the voting membership by mail. Printed ballots will be furnished with the August 2020 issue of *Military Officer*, and online voting again will be offered. Newly elected directors will be installed after the annual meeting in Kansas City, Oct. 24, 2020.

Bylaw Requirements:

[Read MOAA's Bylaws [here](#)]

There are 36 directors on the board of the association: eight Army, eight Navy, eight Air Force, three Marine Corps, two Coast Guard, one Public Health Service, one NOAA, and five at-large (without regard to service affiliation). In order to maintain the required service representation, the incoming class of directors must consist of at least one Army, two Air Force, three Navy, one Public Health Service, and one surviving spouse.

The Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and NOAA have no specific vacancies, but officers from those services may apply for the five at-large seats. In addition:

- Directors must be active duty, Reserve, National Guard, retired, or former uniformed service officers, or surviving spouses of such officers, and members of the association.**
- Directors hold office for six years.**
- Each director represents the total association and not a regional or service constituency.**
- The board directs and controls the business management and affairs of the association and has the authority to approve contracts, incur liabilities, expend funds, and attend to other association matters.**

There are no grade or other limitations on the number of officers who may serve as directors at any one time. Efforts are made to obtain the best-qualified members from within the membership of the association.

Service on the Board:

Directors discharge their governance responsibilities primarily by participating in the three board meetings convened each year. Each board meeting includes meetings of the various standing committees and requires about two to three days, not including travel.

Programs

Feb – 19 – Jeff Cannon, Director of the SAC Museum

Mar – 18 – Craig Jacobs, Henry Doorly Zoo

Keep Your Nebraska State Senator Informed

[Contact your Senator and the Speaker of the Legislature](#) - Nothing Ventured, Nothing Gained... You just might make the difference!

PLEASE UTILIZE OUR ADVERTIZERS ON FOLLOWING PAGES...

Their support aids our programs



MOAA's and Heartland Chapter's Missions are the Same

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, working to support military and their families at every stage of life. It actively petitions Congress on behalf of the military community on issues affecting the career force, the retired community, and veterans of the uniformed services. MOAA offers a wide range of personal and financial services exclusive to MOAA members. Whatever the stage of a career, MOAA membership delivers benefits geared specifically to you – and your family. You become part of the strongest advocate for our military and their families. Those with prior officer service in any of the seven uniformed services can become members. Consider joining today because every voice counts! You will be protecting not only your earned benefits but for all serving today. Our Heartland Chapter also focuses on state and local issues, interfacing with the Legislature and the Governor. We provide a really great environment for camaraderie and mutual support with our meetings, speakers, newsletters, website, and community involvement. We are like family. As MOAA does, WE NEVER STOP SERVING....

We are One Powerful Voice –

For every officer at every stage of life and career...

Join Us !! You will be glad you did!

Selection of Membership

<p>When you join MOAA, you become part of the strongest advocate for our military's personnel and their families. The stronger our membership is, the stronger our voice becomes. Consider joining today because every voice counts. Three membership levels to meet the needs of all Officers.</p>	 BASIC	 PREMIUM	 LIFE
Features of each Membership level	No-cost electronic Membership designed for today's junior officers.	Full access to MOAA's career resources, countless discounts on products and travel, & access to all of MOAA-exclusive pubs & news updates. Full access to a wide variety of member benefits for today's career officer.	Receive all the benefits that PREMIUM membership has plus exclusive privileges and benefits.
Membership Dues	Free	1 year - \$48, 2 years - \$82 3 years - \$108	Dues are based on your current age
Support of critical advocacy efforts to protect the benefits of the entire military community.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic access to several of MOAA's news updates.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discounts on products and travel.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Career transition resources MOAA helps transition efforts by hosting career fairs, resume critiques, training sessions & much more.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expert advice on your military pay & benefits MOAA's team of highly trained professionals can help you receive the military benefits you've earned through one-on-one counseling.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Financial planning and investment advice		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Military Office magazine		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Access to all MOAA-exclusive publications		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scholarships, interest-free loans, & grants		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MOAA Chapters - Take advantage of the opportunity to get involved & meet fellow offices in your community. A PREMIUM or LIFE membership makes it easy.	Dues vary by Chapter. (Heartland Chapter of Ne is \$20 per yr)	New chapter members receive a voucher good for one year of chapter dues.	New chapter members receive a voucher good for two years of chapter dues.
Bonus travel rewards and discounts			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Initiation fee waived at the Army and Navy Club of Washington, D. C.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Spouse Protection -membership benefits transfers if something happen to you.		Auxiliary Annual DUES 1 Yr - \$43 2 Yr - \$73 3 Yr - \$97	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

National Membership Form

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military service-members and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers and their surviving spouses. MOAA members proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

THE LARGER OUR NUMBERS, THE GREATER YOUR VOICE.

Why MOAA
membership matters.



Select YOUR Membership: LIFE PREMIUM BASIC

Name _____

Rank/Branch of Service _____

Active Retired Former Reserve National Guard Surviving Spouse

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Date of birth _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

To ensure deliverability of MOAA communications, please provide a personal email without a ".mil" domain if available. We value your privacy. MOAA does not rent or sell its members' emails to third parties. If you include your email address, you will receive e-communications from MOAA as a member benefit. Visit www.moaa.org/email for details.

Spouse Name _____

Spouse email _____

Your spouse has access to all of your MOAA member benefits.

Local Chapter Name _____

For LIFE or PREMIUM options, choose one of the following payment methods:
Method of payment

Check (please make payable to MOAA) Visa Mastercard AMEX Discover

Charge my card the full amount due \$ _____

Card number _____ Expiration date _____

Signature _____

For LIFE only, consider E-Z Pay with 10 convenient, interest-free installments

You'll receive monthly invoices, and your balance will reflect credit for any unused dues paid on your current annual membership.

Enclosed is my check payable to MOAA for \$ _____

(1/10th of my dues: invoices will be sent monthly for remaining dues)

Charge my credit card above in the amount of \$ _____

(1/10th of my dues: invoices will be sent monthly for remaining dues)

Check here to have your credit card automatically charged monthly for the remaining installment payments.

Dues to MOAA are not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes.

Annual membership dues include a \$12 subscription to Military Officer magazine.

Send To: MOAA, PO Box 1488 • Merrifield, VA 22116-9820

For faster service, call (800) 234-MOAA (6622) or visit www.moaa.org/join.

LIFE
Membership Dues

Dues are based on your current age.

50 and under	\$851
Age 51-55	\$801
Age 56-60	\$757
Age 61-65	\$692
Age 66-70	\$615
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Age 76-80	\$434
Age 81-85	\$332
Age 86-90	\$234
Age 91-95	\$145
Age 96-99	\$88
Age 100+	FREE

PREMIUM
Membership Dues

One-Year PREMIUM

\$48 (Surviving Spouse - \$43)

Two-Year

PREMIUM

\$82 (Surviving

Spouse - \$73)



Three-Year

PREMIUM

\$108 (Surviving

Spouse - \$97)



BASIC
Membership Dues

FREE

Local Membership Form



Heartland of America Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 1756
Bellevue, NE 68005-1756

LOCAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Heartland Chapter members must also be a National MOAA Member)

Membership: Initial or Renewal

Annual local dues \$20.00 \$10.00 (new ones after 1 July) Aux. \$5.00

Benefactor Donor: \$50, \$100 or more _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____

Nickname _____ e-mail _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(H) _____ W _____ Cell _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Retired NOAA USPHS

Active Duty Regular Reserve Nat'l Guard Former Officer

Spouse's Name _____

National MOAA Membership # _____ Life Member? Yes No

Brief Bio: (entered service: branch: assignment summary: Interesting career anecdotes:

Signature _____ Date _____

Contact Chapter Officers for more info: President Dan Donovan - 402-339-7888,
Membership: Michael DeBolt 402-980-0554, **Surviving Spouse Affairs:** Martha Didamo -
402-291-2194, **Legislation:** Jeff Mikesell - 402-990-2713, **Treasurer:** Rene Dreiling 402-
740-3127, **ROTC:** Brook Stafford - 402-916-9759, **Personal Affairs:** Teri LeHigh - 402-291-
2713, **Hospitality & Reservations:** Ron & Lidiya Glinka, 402-672-2020, **Webmaster &**
Newsletter: Pat Jones - 402-650-4457, **Advertising & Recruiting:** Dick Doolittle 402-871-8409



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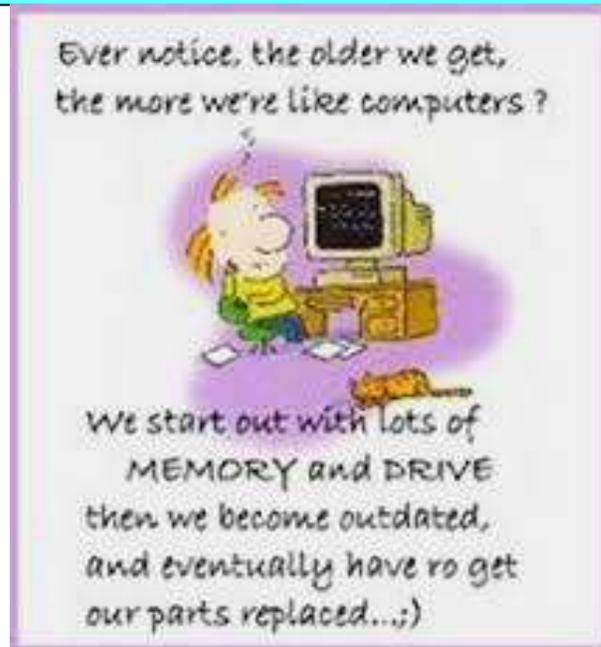
May They Not Be Forgotten:

I mean the men and women who have answered the call and paid the ultimate price so that we and future generations could have the freedoms so cherished by human beings. We must ever be vigilant and prepared to defend our way of life against those who would deny it. Callous politicians, power hungry egotists, corrupt individuals, adversarial religions, and even our latest self-oriented generations pose grave threat to the preservation of what many take for granted. Every citizen should take a few moments from time to time and reflect on the benefits we have in our country. They should give thanks to those who have served and preserved our way of life.



Hopefully, they will also pledge to do their part to keep it so. – PLJ

Wandering Mind of An Old Retired Guy



**"GOOD FRIENDS ARE THE RARE JEWELS OF LIFE,
DIFFICULT TO FIND AND IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE!"**

**TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN, YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE,
SO ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS."**

Dinner Reservations for February 19th

After dinner, our speaker will be Jeff Cannon, Director of SAC & Aerospace Museum

Remember the expression, "The more, the merrier"?

We ask you to make our meetings better, with your presence.

**NOTE: IF YOUR RESERVATION HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED BY
RON OR LIDIYA, PLEASE CALL THEM**



RSVP: Lt Col Ron & Lidiya Glinka - Tel: 402-672-2020 - heartlandmoaa@hotmail.com

Please specify names of attendees, meal choices and include a phone number in case we need to contact you.

Reservations should be in by Monday night before the dinner! If you must cancel your reservation, please call Ron or Lidiya at (402) 672-2020 prior to 4:00 pm on the day of the event; otherwise the chapter will be charged if you are a NO-SHOW and we will have to send you a bill for the cost.

Meal selections are as follows:

**8oz Top Sirloin w/ Au-gratin Potatoes and Green Bean Almondine - \$30.50
(\$33.50 w/Spumoni IC)**

**Salmon Filet w/ Au-Gratin Potatoes and Fresh Roasted Vegetables - \$29.00
(\$32.00 w/Spumoni IC)**

**Caesar Salad with Grilled Chicken -- \$21.00
(\$24.00 w/Spumoni IC)**

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