



Heartland of America Chapter

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

***** **April 2021** *****

Miracle on 72nd Street ??

YES...We are going to HAVE a MOAA dinner again !!!



Next *SCHEDULED* Dinner Meeting??
April 21st at Anthony's Steak House, 72nd & F St.

(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 XXXV

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April 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As the days go by, it appears that we will be having our first dinner meeting in over a year. Most of our members will have gotten vaccines and the threat of COVID will be greatly diminished. Our return meeting will be at Anthony's Steakhouse on Wednesday, April 21st. Our speaker is retired marine Lt Col Mick Waggoner. After 16 years of service, Mick had the opportunity to attend Creighton Law School. Upon graduation he returned to the Marines and served as a JAG at Parris Island and Coronado. Since retiring, Mick played a major role in the establishment of the Douglas County

Veterans Treatment Court. He has continued to be involved in veterans' volunteer activities.

On Saturday March 13th, Dick Doolittle and I traveled to Lincoln's Wilderness Ridge for the Nebraska National Guard Association's Business Meeting. While this was the 7th or 8th time, we have attended this meeting, it was the first at Wilderness Ridge. This venue was very impressive as it looked like a very nice giant log house. At the beginning of the meeting, each of the corporate sponsors was invited to speak. When it was our turn, I mentioned some of the benefits of becoming a member. The main speaker was Congressman Don Bacon whose general topic was leadership and "taking care of the troops." After his well-received presentation, he made a brief visit to our MOAA table. We did sell a couple of memberships so it was a successful day. One of the other corporate sponsors was a retired general who works for a company that manufactures Humvees. Conferees were offered rides in them while Dick and I were discussing memberships. After a very nice lunch, I was taking our MOAA tablecloth and leftover materials in a box to my car. As I exited the building, there was a Humvee with its engine running and a seat open. I asked for a ride to my car. The ride was my first in a Humvee and was surprisingly comfortable.

LB387, the bill that exempts State taxes for military retirees appears to be on track. Lawmakers advanced the measure, 45-0, through the first of three required votes. The measure is one of Gov. Pete Ricketts' top priorities this year. The

speaker for our May 19th meeting is Senator/Col Tom Brewer who sponsored LB387 at the request of the governor.

The 2020 Level of Excellence Award nomination is due May 1, 2021. While I am aware of most of the military and civilian volunteer activities of the Board, I would like to hear from Chapter members who may have participated in such activities. Please email me at the address below this article by April 15th.

The Sarpy County Veterans Service Office is planning to move on Monday, April 5th into the 1102 Building, located at 1102 E. 1st Street in Papillion.

The annual Storming the Hill has been renamed “Advocating for Action” and instead of visiting our two senators and three congressmen in their Washington offices, our legislative team, Jeff Mikesell, Dean Kenkel, and I, will be visiting them here in the State, either in person or virtually.

Please plan on joining us on April 21 for our first dinner meeting in over a year.

Dan Donovan

d.donovan1@cox.net

402-339-7888

Bipartisan Bill Would Repeal TRICARE Select Enrollment Fee for Some Retirees

(By: Karen Ruedisueli, MOAA NL MARCH 17, 2021)

A bipartisan bill would provide a partial fix for the new TRICARE Select enrollment fee, which took effect Jan. 1.

The TRICARE Select Restoration Act (S.625), introduced by Sens. Jon Tester (D-Mont.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), protects the military retiree health care benefit by eliminating the TRICARE Select enrollment fee for those who retired prior to 2018 and their dependents.

MOAA appreciates the efforts of both senators and supports this partial fix for the TRICARE Select enrollment fee.

[TAKE ACTION: Ask Your Senators to Support S. 625]

“MOAA fought the new TRICARE Select enrollment fee years ago when it was proposed as part of military health system reform, because it fundamentally devalues the benefit and reduces health care protections for military retirees,” said MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret). “We appreciate Sen. Tester and Sen. Murkowski’s efforts to eliminate the enrollment fee and reinstate full health care protections for those who retired before 2018. We thank Sen. Tester and Sen. Murkowski for taking this step to reverse the unacceptable

move of cutting TRICARE benefits after service members have fulfilled the obligations of a full career.”

The new TRICARE Select enrollment fee was passed into law with the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) as part of a package of military health system (MHS) reforms. It went into effect Jan. 1, 2021, and has led to a significant number of retirees and their families being disenrolled from TRICARE coverage for failure to pay the fee. **Disenrolled families have until the end of June to request reinstatement of TRICARE coverage.**

During the FY 2017 NDAA process, MOAA opposed the Select enrollment fee and successfully fought for current service members and retirees to be grandfathered into lower fees -- \$150 individual/\$300 family for grandfathered retirees, instead of \$450 individual/\$900 family for retirees who enter service on or after Jan 1, 2018.

The S.625 bill language repeals the Select enrollment fee only for those who retired before 2018 – a partial fix. MOAA still advocates for a full fix repealing the fee for all Group A beneficiaries (whose sponsors entered service before 2018), but this partial fix has a lower cost associated with it and a high likelihood of passage.

[\[RELATED: MOAA's 2020-21 TRICARE Guide\]](#)

In a press release, the bill's sponsors explained the importance of this legislation.

"No military retiree should ever be at risk of losing their health care coverage -- especially during a global pandemic," said Tester. "Our bipartisan bill will ensure that retired veterans aren't burdened by costly enrollment fees that put themselves and their family's health care in jeopardy. This legislation is a critical step in supporting more folks during these tough times, and I'll keep fighting until every man and woman who has selflessly served our nation has access to affordable, high-quality care."

Murkowski said the fees came as a surprise to many of her constituents, and she was "glad to join Senator Tester in support of legislation to eliminate unnecessary annual enrollment fees for certain retired veterans and reduce those fees for individuals and families."

"COVID-19 has had significant impacts on America's veterans and their families," Murkowski added. "We must guarantee their hard-earned medical benefits are protected throughout this public health crisis, and beyond."

[Please contact your senators and ask them to cosponsor this important bill.](#)

Be Vigilant: Phone, Online Scams May Rise With COVID-19 Relief Legislation

(By: Kevin Lilley, MOAA NL MARCH 17, 2021)

Even before the latest round of COVID-19 relief legislation cleared Congress, multiple agencies and news outlets warned of continued pandemic-related scams designed to nab personal information or cash from their targets.

With the publicity surrounding the new law – and some of the individual benefits it includes – it’s likely scammers could increase their efforts. Similar warnings were sounded [after previous relief legislation](#).

These scams may take many forms. Some of the latest warnings have included:

Vaccine rollout fraud: Scammers have taken multiple routes in this area, [according to the Better Business Bureau](#), with some promising home vaccinations or COVID-19 testing in exchange for Medicare account information, others offering to sell shots, and others engineering phony surveys about the vaccine, offering a prize at the end for those who give up personal information.

Ripped from the headlines: Many small businesses aren’t sure whether they qualify for the [Paycheck Protection Program](#), and many individuals don’t know whether they’ll see additional stimulus checks or unemployment benefits connected to new legislation. Scammers are happy to call and provide “free advice” on these and other topics in the news, often in exchange for Social Security numbers or other information.

Stick with the classics: As the pandemic stretches into spring, it overlaps with tax season – a traditionally fertile ground for fraud of all types. Some scammers have been [combining the stress-inducing topics](#) for maximum effect.

[RELATED: [More Financial Resources From MOAA](#)]

While the scams may change, the bulk of the protective actions you can take remain the same. MOAA has outlined several of these steps in [previous articles](#) and [webinars \(Premium/Life member login required\)](#); click those links for full details, but here’s a quick refresher:

- **Not sure whether a call purporting to be from a federal agency or other organization is legitimate? Hang up, look up the number of the agency, and call back.**
- **Protect personal information by changing passwords regularly, shredding important documents, and watching what you share on social media.**

- **Be safe online by not opening suspicious links or attachments, and check for an “https” in front of the URL before making any financial transactions.**
- **Stay up to date with your local vaccine rollout information, and learn more about DoD and VA offerings; get details at MOAA.org/Coronavirus.**

And one new item for the list: Multiple federal agencies, including the [Federal Trade Commission](#), have warned against celebrating your COVID-19 vaccine by posting photos of your vaccine card online. Cards with your date of birth, health care provider details, and other personal information offer opportunities to online identity thieves.

Get more details about COVID-related fraud, including how to report suspected cases, at [this Department of Justice website](#).

Access Member-Exclusive Deals from MOAA

(MOAA NL 11 March)

Premium and Life Members can save on products and services of all types, including car rentals, lodging, shipping, and more.

MOAA VACATIONS

Thinking about an adventure? You've come to the right place. [MOAA Vacations](#) can assist with every cruise line, every ship and every tour company in the world, plus airfare and hotels. Click the link for the latest packages, or call (800) 211-5107 for more details.

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- ***Learn more about the [Active Service Discharge Group Term Life Insurance Plan](#)***

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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
<p>Features of each Membership level</p>	<p>No-cost electronic Membership designed for today's junior officers.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Receive all the benefits that PREMIUM membership has plus exclusive privileges and benefits.</p>
<p>Membership Dues</p>	<p>Free</p>	<p>1 year -\$48, 2 years - \$82 3 years - \$108</p>	<p>Dues are based on your current age</p>
<p>Support of critical advocacy efforts to protect the benefits of the entire military community.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Electronic access to several of MOAA's news updates.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Discounts on products and travel.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Career transition resources MOAA helps transition efforts by hosting career fairs, resume critiques, training sessions & much more.</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>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.</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Financial planning and investment advice</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Military Office magazine</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Access to all MOAA-exclusive publications</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Scholarships, interest-free loans, & grants</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>MOAA Chapters - Take advantage of the opportunity to get involved & meet fellow offices in your community. A PREMIUM or LIFE membership makes it easy.</p>	<p>Dues vary by Chapter. (Heartland Chapter of Ne is \$20 per yr)</p>	<p>New chapter members receive a voucher good for one year of chapter dues.</p>	<p>New chapter members receive a voucher good for two years of chapter dues.</p>
<p>Bonus travel rewards and discounts</p>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Initiation fee waived at the Army and Navy Club of Washington, D. C.</p>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Spouse Protection -membership benefits transfers if something happen to you.</p>		<p>Auxiliary Annual DUES 1 Yr - \$43 2 Yr - \$73 3 Yr - \$97</p>	<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.**



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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**

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Charge my card the full amount due \$ _____

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Signature _____

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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.

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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:** Doug Pikop - 402-690-4338, **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-
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You are our heroes." –

Pete Zekauskas

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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



BUT, LIFE IS GOOD

**"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." And SMILE.... It'S CONTAGIOUS !!!**

Dinner Reservations for [APRIL 21st](#)

Social Hour starts at 6 PM – dinner at 7 PM

After dinner, our speaker will be retired marine Lt Col Mick Waggoner

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:

**8 Oz Top Sirloin w/Augratin Potatoes & Fresh Roasted vegetables - \$31.50
(\$33.50 w/ Vanilla IC)**

**Salmon Filet w/Augratin Potatoes and Fresh Roasted Vegetables - \$29.00
(\$32.00 w/ Vanilla IC)**

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

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