



# ***Heartland of America Chapter***

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

**\*\*\*\*\* JUNE 2021 \*\*\*\*\***



***Hey... MOAA is having a party !!***  
***Maybe Craig Jacobs will introduce us !***

\*\*\*\*\*

**Next *SCHEDULED* Dinner Meeting??**  
**June 16<sup>th</sup> at Anthony's Steak House, 72<sup>nd</sup> & F St.**

**(see inside back cover for details)**

Check out our website at [www.heartlandMOAA.us](http://www.heartlandMOAA.us) or call (402)339-7888

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## 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](#).

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

Volume XXXV

Number 6

June 2021

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### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**Our May dinner meeting was excellent. It was well-attended with a nice mix of new and existing members. Our speaker, Senator Tom Brewer, Colonel USA (Ret), gave us a wonderful presentation. It was great because our speaker had some great news for us: the bill he had sponsored, LB387, that completely exempts military retirees from paying Nebraska state income tax, had passed its Final Reading that morning and that it would be going to Governor Ricketts for his signature the next week.**

**Senator Brewer grew up on, or near, the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and is a member of the Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe. He was first elected to the State Legislature in 2016 and is the first Senator of Native American descent to serve in Nebraska's Unicameral. His military service started when he enlisted in the Nebraska National Guard. He later attended Doane University on an ROTC scholarship. His Military service included six tours in Afghanistan and a joint tour at Offutt AFB as the operations officer with the National Emergency Operations Command Post (NAOC), the E4B aircraft unit. His last tour in Afghanistan was cut short after his vehicle was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade. He suffered severe injuries, including shrapnel wounds, a punctured eye and shredded ligaments. He spent almost two years recovering at the Lincoln Madonna Rehabilitation Center. He holds two Purple Hearts.**

**Senator Brewer's presentation covered his personal experiences in the military and in the Unicameral. He possesses a wonderful sense of humor and his presentation was very informational and greatly appreciated.**

**Our chapter has been working this issue for some twenty years going back to the time of Joe DeCarlo, Paul Cohen, and Rene Dreiling, my**



**predecessors. We thank all the members who have written their legislators, visited them, or testified on this retired pay issue. Our support was a factor in the creation of the Nebraska Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs that had the ability to task the University of Nebraska to obtain factual data and present studies on retirees. The Nebraska Veterans Coalition played a key role by meeting with senators and explaining the issues. Finally, we have a governor who fully understood this issue and vowed to resolve it before his first election. He plans to sign LB387 on Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**After his presentation, I gave Tom Brewer our chapter coin and a beautiful certificate of appreciation for his leadership on our tax exemption legislation. Pat Jones had created the certificate and earlier, I presented Pat the certificates for receiving two Harris Communications Awards for both our website and newsletter for 2019. He won both awards again in 2020 and can plan on receiving them at our December meeting.**



**Our next meeting will be June 16<sup>th</sup> and our speaker will be Craig Jacobs of the Henry Doorly Zoo. Craig spoke to us a couple of years ago and he was excellent. Our Vice President Ron Russell will be hosting Craig as I will be in Newport for my niece's wedding reception. There will be no meeting in July and I hope to have our August speaker by next month.**

Dan Donovan

[d.donovan1@cox.net](mailto:d.donovan1@cox.net)

402-339-7888

### **Military Retirement in Nebraska Becoming Attractive**

(Neb Dept of Veteran Affairs – 21 May)

**In the last week, the Nebraska Legislature passed two monumental bills for the state of Nebraska. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, the Legislature passed LB 387, the 100% un-taxing of military retired pay introduced by Senator Tom Brewer, with a vote of 47-0. Then on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May the Legislature passed LB 64, introduced by Senator Lindstrom, which will phase out the taxing of Social Security over the next 10 years with a vote of 41-0. The bills have been sent to Governor Pete Ricketts for his signature.**



Senators Lindstrom and Brewer

## **MOAA's Surviving Spouse Page**

(MOAA Website 21 May, 2021)



Barb Jones and Mary Sweetman enjoyed comparing Navy and Air Force wife experiences.

**MOAA continues to champion the issues of the surviving spouse community while providing expert guidance for financial and retirement planning for its members. Below, you'll find links to critical advocacy issues as well as member-exclusive resources and benefits. As a surviving spouse and a member of MOAA, you have access to a host of people who are there to guide you through any difficulties or questions you might have. MOAA exists to protect military benefits and to offer you resources which cannot be found elsewhere.**

**MOAA membership is 350,000 strong, of which 16% are surviving spouses. Experts in the Washington, D.C., area advocate for legislation benefiting our community; they are equally vigilant when fighting legislation that would harm our benefits.**

**You are encouraged to visit [MOAA.org](https://www.moaa.org), where you can sign up to receive *The MOAA Newsletter* and choose areas of most interest to you, such health care and earned benefits, finance, and spouse and family.**

**On the MOAA homepage when you see the prompt "I AM A...," scroll down and click on "Surviving Spouse," which will lead you to the [Surviving Spouse Page](#). The site provides information relevant to the surviving spouse community.**

**MOAA has a Surviving Spouse Advisory Council (SSAC) consisting of eight surviving spouses advocating for issues and concerns of interest to our community.**

**Email [SSACouncil@moaa.org](mailto:SSACouncil@moaa.org) with any questions or concerns you may have.**

**MOAA's Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter meets once a month and is open to all MOAA**

**surviving spouses and surviving spouse liaisons. Speakers cover important information regarding issues and concerns one month and the next is an open forum meeting taking questions and hearing concerns of attendees. [Learn more about the chapter, including how to join.](#)**



Dorris Heaston and Janet Stultz were glad we could meet and socialize again



LtCol Max Moore USAF (Ret) seems to be showing LtGen Leo Smith how big a fish it was that got away...

**Additionally, MOAA's Surviving Spouses and Friends Facebook group provides information, answers questions, and offers an opportunity to interact with others traveling the same course. Although not sponsored by MOAA, another Facebook group, [DIC Surviving Spouses & Friends](#), is open to all surviving spouses who receive or who have questions regarding [Dependency and Indemnity Compensation](#).**

**Our local MOAA Heartland chapter is where you can meet new people and other surviving spouses. We often have speakers on a variety of subjects that might interest or concern you, with some other events providing entertainment. Our Heartland chapter has a surviving spouse liaison, Martha Didamo – 402-291-2194, who is there to assist you with any issues or concerns you might have or just to provide some comfort or a sounding board.**

**[Read past Surviving Spouse Corners.](#)**

**Questions? Contact MOAA's Member Service Center at (800) 234-6622, or find MOAA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).**

**Heartland of America Chapter Awards Five \$550 Scholarships**  
**(Written by Board Member Doug Pikop, Major, USAF Retired)**



Creighton Army ROTC Cadet Drew David's was awarded our Certificate and \$550 scholarship by Maj Doug Pikop USAF (Ret)

**Once again, your Board approved the award of five \$550 scholarships to ROTC cadets at UNL, UNO and Creighton University. We were able to provide these scholarships because of the generosity of over 80 Heartland of America Chapter members who donated to our local scholarship program in addition to paying their dues for 2021. Thanks to all who gave additional dollars to fund this worthwhile project.**

**Due to the ongoing COVID-19 lockdown this spring, some awards ceremonies were held with social distancing and others were 'virtual' ceremonies. Board member Dick Doolittle attended the Chancellor's Review at UNL and Doug Pikop attended the Creighton University awards**

ceremony. UNO held a virtual event. Here are the names of this year's selectees:

1) Army Cadet Rachel Thompson, UNL (UNK Detachment), is a junior criminal justice/military science major from Palmer, NE

2) Air Force Cadet Brenna Krueger, UNL is a junior fisheries and wildlife major from Anchorage, AK

3) Navy Midshipman Robert Shields, UNL, is a junior construction management major from Wheaton, IL

4) Air Force Cadet Natalie McConnell, UNO, is a sophomore nursing major from Jupiter, FL

5) Army Cadet Drew David's, Creighton University, is a junior emergency medical services major from Hawaii

In addition to the college level scholarships, our Chapter also provided MOAA certificates to 16 high school JROTC programs in the Metro Area, Lincoln and Grand Island. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all certificates were mailed rather than making in-person presentations.



UNO ROTC Cadet Natalie McConnell is obviously proud of her Certificate and \$550 scholarship

Thank you once again to every Chapter member who donated additional dollars to make our Heartland of America Chapter scholarship awards a reality; it's a very worthy cause!

**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**



Dick Purdum, Pat and Al Sailer, and Lorraine Purdum

**CASH or SMARTPHONE PAY?**  
**(Request of LtCol Rene Dreiling)**

**Dan was recently asked about the possibility of having the ability to pay annual dues with VENMO. Apparently there are quite a few millennials who don't carry checkbooks; instead using an app on their smart phone to make payments.**

**The most commonly used app by millennials appears to be VENMO. Some of the other common apps include G Pay, Apple Pay, PayPal, & Square. I've checked with some older individuals and discovered that quite a few also use VENMO.**

**Some apps are credit card only with 2.9% commissions. Others take debit cards, checking accounts, or some combination of the three.**



Linda and Jack Nelson rushed back from San Diego to attend

**Those that take checking accounts usually have no fees. My question to the membership is how many of you use apps rather than checks, and if so which ones? Please forward your responses to me at [renedreiling@hotmail.com](mailto:renedreiling@hotmail.com). Thanks in advance for your responses. Rene Dreiling, Treasurer**



Our speaker, Senator Tom Brewer, B/Gen Paul Cohen, and Col Dan Donovan



**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**



Carol Moore, Tom and Tess Turner were happy to renew old friendships.



CAPT. Mark Olson, LtGen Leo Smith, and Col Ed Burchfield were happy to be at the dinner

**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.**



Doug Pikop, Ron Russell, and new member George Abbott had a good time



Sharon Russell and Ginny McBlain had a lot of catching up to do

**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><b>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.</b></p>	 <b>BASIC</b>	 <b>PREMIUM</b>	 <b>LIFE</b>
<b>Features of each Membership level</b>	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. <b>Full access to a wide variety of member benefits for today's career officer.</b>	Receive all the benefits that PREMIUM membership has plus exclusive privileges and benefits.
<b>Membership Dues</b>	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"/>
<b>Career transition resources</b> MOAA helps transition efforts by hosting career fairs, resume critiques, training sessions & much more.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Expert advice on your military pay &amp; benefits</b> 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"/>
<b>Financial planning and investment advice</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Military Office magazine</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Access to all MOAA-exclusive publications</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Scholarships, interest-free loans, &amp; grants</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>MOAA Chapters</b> - 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.
<b>Bonus travel rewards and discounts</b>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Initiation fee waived at the Army and Navy Club of Washington, D. C.</b>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Spouse Protection -membership</b> 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](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_

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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](http://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
Age 71-75	\$529
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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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**



**Stuff you didn't know you didn't know!**

**Men can read smaller print than women can; BUT, women can hear better.**

**Coca-Cola was originally green.**

**It is impossible to lick your elbow.**

**The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska**

**The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28%**

**(now get this...)**

**The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%**

**The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$ 16,400**

**The average number of people airborne over the U.S. in any given hour: 61,000**

**Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.**

**The first novel ever written on a typewriter, Tom Sawyer.**

**The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.**

**So-o-o-o, LIFE IS GOOD ....**

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**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 June 16th**

Social Hour starts at 6 PM – dinner at 7 PM

After dinner, our speaker will be **Craig Jacobs, Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo**

**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**



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**RSVP: Lt Col Ron & Lidiya Glinka - Tel: 402-672-2020 - [heartlandmoaa@hotmail.com](mailto: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:**

**6oz Filet Mignon w/ Herb Red Potatoes & Fresh Roasted Vegetables - \$44.75  
(\$47.75 w/Spumoni Ice Cream)**

**Tilapia Bruschetta w/ Herb Red Potatoes & Fresh Roasted Vegetables - \$24.00  
(\$27.00 w/Spumoni Ice Cream)**

**House Chopped Salad with Grilled Chicken -- \$24.00  
(\$27.00 w/Spumoni Ice Cream)**

**New check writing procedures:**

**Make your check out to Heartland Chapter MOAA**

**OR....**

**use our stamp which will be provided at sign-in**

**Dress: Business attire or as appropriate**

**Nonprofit Org  
Heartland of America Chapter,  
MOAA  
P. O. Box 1756  
Bellevue NE 68005**

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***MOAA Heartland Chapter Newsletter***