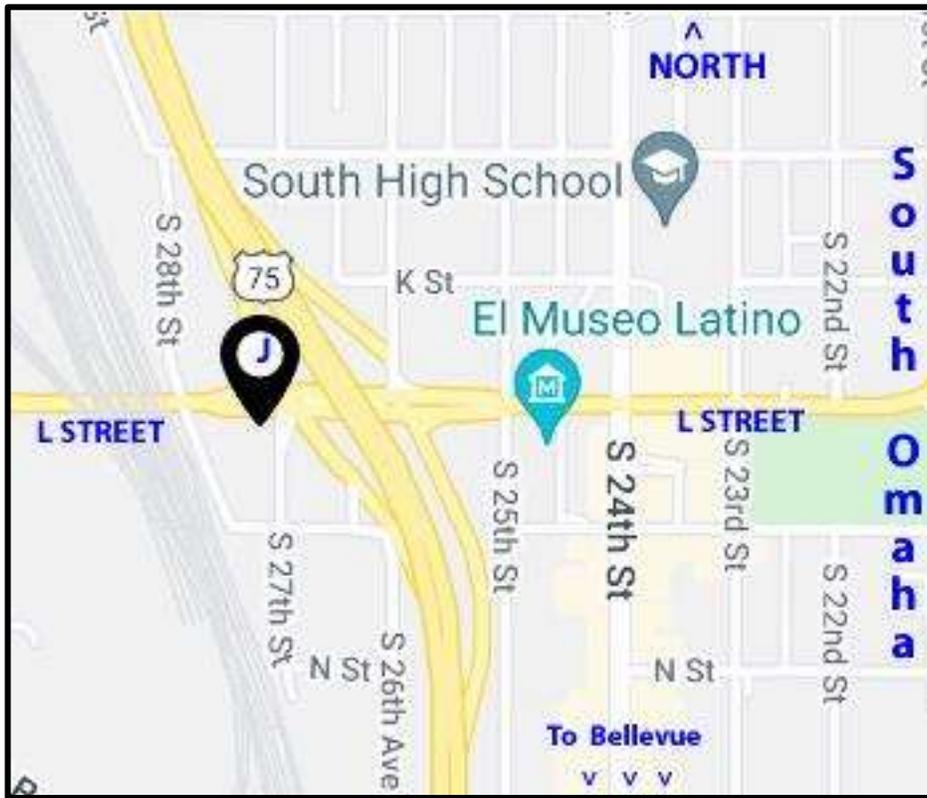




Heartland of America Chapter

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

*******MAY 2022*******



Johnny's Café - MOAA's New Meeting Location
4702 South 27th Street, Omaha NE

.....
Next Dinner Meeting ??
May 18th at Johnny's Cafe, 4702 S. 27th St. Omaha
(see inside back cover for details)

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

The Bulletin Board

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

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

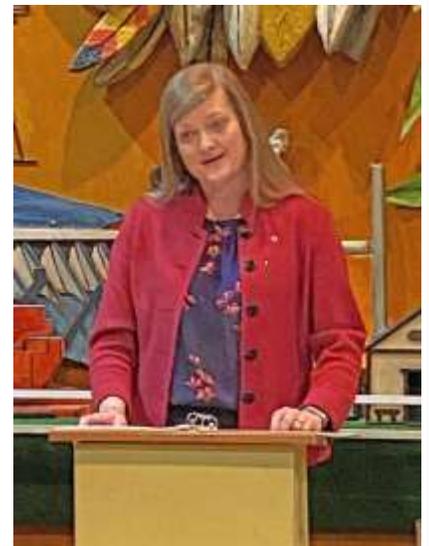


After almost 12 years of having dinner meetings at Anthony's Steakhouse, we had our first meeting at Johnny's Cafe in South Omaha and it went well. We met in the room where a portion of the Jack Nicholson movie "About Schmidt" was filmed. The room has a capacity of 72 so it will work for us. The food was very good and the staff was helpful. Our speaker was Nikki Nader, Deputy Director for Installation Support, 55th Mission Support Group (MSG) of the 55th. She assists in leading a 1600-person group in managing 4000 acres and aids in managing 6 million square feet of facilities. She graduated from North Carolina State in 1996 and went to Joint

Undergraduate Navigator Training at NAS Pensacola, followed by Joint Aviation Electronic Warfare School at Corry Station, Florida. She came to Offutt and the 343rd Reconnaissance Squadron in May 1998. She quickly advanced to Instructor and then to Standardization/Evaluation Coordinator. In May of 2003, she was assigned to the 95th Reconnaissance Squadron at RAF Mildenhall (England). From 2006 to 2008, she was assigned as Director of Electronic Warfare Training, Navy Center of Excellence, Indian Head, MD. From 2008 to 2010, she served as Executive Officer in the Office of Headquarters Air Force Safety in the Pentagon.

In June 2011, she returned to Offutt as Deputy Chief and then Chief of Exercises and Inspections. Next, she was the Inspector General of the 55th Wing and then the Deputy Commander of the 55th MSG. After 22 years of service, Lt Col Nikki Nader retired. She began her civil service career as a program manager in the 55th Wing Plans and assumed her current position In May, 2020 as a GS14. She also serves on the Nebraska Commission for Military and Veteran Affairs.

Nikki's presentation described her career. She experienced some challenges but always rose above them. The diversity, responsibilities, and successes in her assignments reveal how valuable she is to the Air Force. She is an excellent speaker and her presentation was well received.





Our Advocacy in Action team of Dean Kenkel, Jeff Mikesell, and me finished our in-state meetings this past Friday. We discussed The Richard Star Act, the increasing cost of Tricare copays for mental health, and the need for at least a 4.6% pay raise in the 2023 NDAA. Late Friday morning, Dean and I went to Sen. Sasses' Omaha office and met with Alicia Ostrander, his outreach coordinator and Brett Fetterly, his National Security Advisor (by conference call). After a quick cup of coffee at the Paradise Café, we headed to Senator Fischer's Omaha office where we caught up with Jeff Mikesell. Senator Fischer came into the conference room and

listened to us, and discussed the three issues. She was extremely cordial and very friendly. She told us she will be the 2nd ranking republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee next year.

Our membership chair, Lt Col Mike DeBolt, USA (Ret), orchestrated the 73rd Cavalry Regiment Memorial Dedication on Saturday morning, April 23, at Omaha's Memorial Park. It was too windy for the paratrooper to jump. Our legislative chair, Jeff Mikesell, in his Omaha Chamber capacity, filled in for Mayor Stothert and gave an excellent welcome. Chapter member Felix Ungerman, Assistant Chief of Staff to Congressman Don Bacon filled in for Congressman Bacon and was also excellent. (Cong. Bacon was at former Congressman Brad Ashford's funeral). Felix was followed by Governor Ricketts. Rob McCartney of Channel 7 was the emcee. Also participating was the retired first Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (SEAC), William Gainey. The saddest part of the event was the unveiling of the bricks for the 53 members who died in Iraq and Afghanistan, the laying of wreaths, and the last roll call of those who died. The Sunday local television channels showed interviews after the event with both Jeff Mikesell and Mike DeBolt and both sounded great.

Our dinner meeting on May 18th will be a presentation on Public/Private financing and how



Chapter President Dan Donovan gave our chapter coin to our speaker.

it impacts Offutt. Two well-known members of the Offutt/STRATCOM community will conduct the presentation: Al Buckles and Steve Callicut.

.Dan Donovan - d.donovan1@cox.net - 402-339-7888

Record-Breaking Tax Relief, Accomplishments of 2022 Legislative Session

(from Press Release relayed by Ron Russell, April 22)

(This is in addition to the relief of military retired pay that passed last year)

LINCOLN – Today, Governor Pete Ricketts highlighted the achievements of the Second Session of the 107th Legislature in his annual “Sine Die” address to the Unicameral on the final day of its 2022 regular session. Senators enacted LB 873, the biggest tax relief package in Nebraska state history. It delivers \$3.4 billion of additional tax relief to Nebraskans through tax year 2027. Additionally, LB 873 provides 12 times more tax relief than any tax relief bill passed prior to Gov. Ricketts’ administration.

During the address, the Governor thanked Senators for taking action on key priorities he set in January, including tax relief, strengthening Nebraska’s water resources, and investing in law enforcement. Gov. Ricketts praised the Unicameral for controlling spending to allow for historic tax relief. He also thanked Legislators for their extra work this year to pass a budget to allocate \$1.04 billion of federal assistance received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).



Leslie Pahre, Ginny McBlain and Loretta Doolittle enjoy visiting before dinner. Wonder who got the RED seat?

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- **Controlling Spending:** Over eight years, the Governor has worked with the Legislature to limit state government spending to an average annual growth rate of 2.8%. This paved the way for record-setting tax relief this session.
- **Property Tax Relief:** Protects the refundable income tax credit on property taxes paid to public K-12 school districts. This rebate was over 25% of school property taxes in tax year 2021. Additionally, creates a new rebate on property taxes paid to community colleges, which will begin in tax year 2022.
- **Income Tax Relief:** Cuts taxes on Nebraska’s families by phasing down the highest individual income tax rate from 6.84% to 5.84% by the 2027 tax

year. Phases down the business income tax rate from 7.5% to 5.84% by the 2027 tax year.

- **Social Security Tax Relief: Accelerates the phaseout of taxes on Social Security income. This income will be 100% exempt from state taxation starting in tax year 2025.**
- **Investing in Public Safety: Expands capacity to train cadets at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center. Upgrades and expands the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab to meet increased demand to process evidence.**
- **Securing Nebraska's Water Resources: Authorizes construction of a canal and reservoir system (Perkins County Canal) to protect Nebraska's legal entitlement to South Platte River water flowing into the state from Colorado.**
- **Developing Nebraska's Water Resources: Invests in water projects to create recreational opportunities for Nebraska's families and attract tourism. Projects include: 1) construction of a new marina at Lake McConaughy, 2) a major marina expansion at Lewis and Clark Lake; 3) construction of an event center and lodge and Niobrara State Park; 4) creation of a 3,600-acre reservoir between Lincoln and Omaha.**
- **Investing in Rural Nebraska: Extends and expands the Nebraska Rural Development Act to attract investment in rural communities. Creates tax credits to encourage fuel retailers to sell E15 and higher blends of ethanol.**
- **Investing in Urban Nebraska: Creates Economic Recovery grants to support job training, small business growth, economic development, and affordable housing in metropolitan areas and other qualifying census tracts.**
- **Workforce Development: Funds \$60 million of community college grants and \$15 million of dual-credit (high school / college) grants to develop Nebraska's skilled workforce in fields such as healthcare, agriculture, transportation, manufacturing, and construction.**



Allen and Patricia Sailer are ready for dinner!

Ohio Chapter Celebrates Member's 105th Birthday

(MOAA NL 20 April, by Lt. Col. Albert G. Brauer II, USA (Ret), Greater Cincinnati Chapter)

The Greater Cincinnati Chapter celebrated World War II veteran 1st Lt. Robert H. Doolan on his 105th birthday. The celebration was held March 18 at Clovernook

Country Club in North College Hill with a large crowd of well-wishers from across the Cincinnati tri-state area.

Doolan was raised in Cincinnati's West End and graduated from St. Xavier High School in 1935. The former Army Air Corps navigator flew 13 dangerous bombing missions from January-August 1943 over Nazi-occupied Europe as a member of the 92nd Bomb Group, nicknamed "Fame Favored Few."

His B-17 Flying Fortress aircraft was shot down on his unlucky 13th mission, and he spent the next 21 days avoiding capture with the aid of the valiant Dutch resistance. After capture by the Germans, he was a prisoner of war for almost two years in Stalag Luft III. In a twist of fate, Doolan owes his life to a bold Luftwaffe officer that saved him from the certain execution by the Gestapo.



Former 1st Lt. Bob Doolan, a B17 Navigator in WWII, was shot down, experienced life as a POW, is now 105 years old!!

Doolan would be transferred to another camp after two years at Stalag Luft III and eventually was freed by soldiers with the U.S. Third Army; he returned to the U.S. in 1945 and officially left service the following year.

[RELATED FROM WCPO-TV: [WWII Navigator Connects With Great-Granddaughter of Man Who Helped Hide Him During the War](#)]

Speaking to a spellbound audience as if those events happened yesterday, Doolan mixed humor with a deep respect for his Dutch resistance helpers, members of his flight crew, and fellow POWs.

Legislative Update

(Jeff Mikesell)

- 1. LB 1232/1233 were folded into the larger Budget Appropriations bill in Lincoln. These two bills provide \$25M/\$20M respectively to the Offutt-based Amenities for Airmen project and the upcoming NC3 facility. Both are matched with private sector funding, and this is just fantastic news from our Unicameral.**

2. **USAF/CoS CQ Brown last week identified the Offutt flood recovery projects as “Priority” USAF projects. This action ensures continued funding and support to this three-phase project, likely complete by 2025.**
3. **USSPACECOM basing decision is expected very soon. The anticipated outcome is that the HQ will go to Huntsville, AL. Let’s hope for a surprise decision and we get another shot at winning the mission but our expectations should remain low.**
4. **We all know about the Fortenberry outcome. Tough for him and his family. But viewed from a different prism, there will likely be significant impacts to Nebraska and the Greater Omaha/Bellevue area. Losing a Senior Appropriator like him will eventually affect a future project or need. We are working with our delegation and our Cassidy team in DC to minimize the impact of his departure.**



Paul Cohen, Jeff Mikesell, and Ed Burchfield might have been discussing Jeff’s forthcoming Legislative Update presentation.

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Heartland of America Chapter Awards Five
\$600 Scholarships

(by Board Member & ROTC Chair, Doug Pikop)

This year, your Board approved the award of five \$600 scholarships to ROTC cadets at UNL, UNO, and Creighton University. We were able to provide these scholarships because of the generosity of nearly 90 Heartland of America Chapter members who donated to our local scholarship program in addition to paying their dues for 2022. Thanks to all who gave to fund this worthwhile project.



The editor wants to know if LtCol Doolittle is giving the ROTC AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP to the NU basketball starting center



Board Member & ROTC Chair Doug Pikop awarded our MOAA Certificate & Scholarship to Air Force Cadet Christopher Meyer

This year's awards programs were back to 'normal' so we were able to make the presentations in person. Board member Dick Doolittle attended the Chancellor's Review at UNL



Board Member & ROTC Chair Doug Pikop awarded our MOAA Certificate & Scholarship to Army Cadet Jacob Haggar.

and Doug Pikop attended ceremonies at UNO and Creighton University. Here are the names of this year's selectees:

- 1) Army Cadet Addy Hergenrader, UNL, is a junior pre-nursing major from Cozad, NE**
- 2) Air Force Cadet Nader Afana, UNL, is a junior chemistry major from Omaha, NE**
- 3) Navy Midshipman Matthew Alarcon, UNL, is a sophomore civil engineering major from Green Brook, NJ**
- 4) Air Force Cadet Christopher Meyer, UNO, is a junior computer science major from Kansas City, MO**
- 5) Army Cadet Jacob Haggar, Creighton University, is a junior emergency management major from Omaha.**

In addition to the college level scholarships, our Chapter also provided MOAA certificates and medals to individuals in 16 high school JROTC programs in the Metro Area, Lincoln and Grand Island. All the JROTC presentations were made in person as well.



LtCol Dick Doolittle USAF (Ret) presenting MOAA's Certificate and Medal to JROTC Cadet Olivia Hookham

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!

Homestead Exemption Bills

(Answered by Pat Jones, Editor)

LB1080 & 1020 did not make it into law this year. Sen. Sanders office told me it will be a priority next year. So, Homestead Exemption must be still be filed no later than June 30th. You can file on line at HomesteadExemption@Sarpy.gov if you live in Sarpy county and I think it is the same in other counties. There are six categories covering various levels of disability and who qualifies for them as well as the required supporting documentation needed. – Pat Jones



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....

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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.

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

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Age 96-99	\$88
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\$108 (Surviving
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BASIC
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Local Membership Form



Heartland of America Chapter
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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 _____

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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 -
402-292-2194, **Legislation:** Jeff Mikesell - 402-990-2713, **Treasurer:** Rene Dreiling 402-
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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



**When you are retired, you have lots of time to ponder the way things are.
BUT....**

I hate it when I see an old person and then realize we went to high school together.

I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes... so she hugged me.

I thought growing old would take longer.

The officer said, "You drinking?" I said, "You buying?" We just laughed and laughed.... now I need bail money.

A dog accepts you as the boss... a cat wants to see your resume.

Wi-fi went down last night, so I had to talk to my family. They seem like nice people

Camping: where you spend a small fortune to live like a homeless person.

So-o-o-o, 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 !!!**

MAY Reservations for Members & invited guests

Social Hour starts at 6 PM – dinner at 7 PM

After dinner, our speakers will **Two well-known members of the Offutt/STRATCOM community will conduct the presentation: Al Buckles and Steve Callicut .**

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.

(THE DINNER RESERVATION PROCESS HAS CHANGED)

Reservations should be in by SUNDAY NIGHT before the dinner!

If you must cancel your reservation, please call Ron or Lidiya at (402) 672-2020

CANCEL NO LATER THAN MONDAY;

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:

10oz Top Sirloin Steak with Scalloped Potatoes - \$32.50

Tortellini with Shrimp - \$27.00

House Salad with Ginger Chicken - \$23.00

Add Caramel Sundae - \$4.00

New check writing procedures:

Make your check out to Heartland Chapter MOAA

OR....

use our stamp which will be provided at sign-in

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