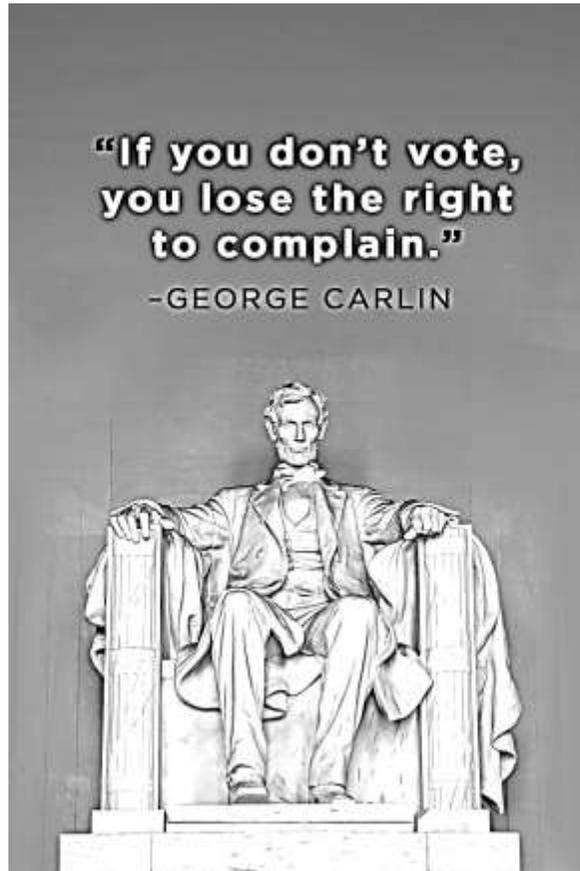




Heartland of America Chapter

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

*******October 2022*******



November 8th is Election Day... if you like the way things are, vote to keep it that way.... If you aren't happy with the way things are... vote to change it !!

.....
Next Dinner Meeting - *October 19th* -Johnny's Cafe, 4702 S. 27th St. Omaha
.....

.....
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 XXXVI

Number 10

October 2022

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The speaker for our September dinner meeting was Lt Col Christopher Russell, the son of our Vice President and former Hospitality Chairs Ron and Sharon. His profile is alongside that of General Pershing and General LeMay on our chapter coin that had been designed by Mark Dreiling when the two were cadets at UNL's ROTC program. Christopher had spoken to us a few years ago after his deployment to Haiti where he served as the TDY Earthquake Recovery Squadron Commander. His other assignments have been to Yokota in Japan, Scott AFB in Illinois, Tinker AFB in Oklahoma from where he was deployed to Irbil, Iraq as Special Projects Commander, Langley AFB, VA, where he was the USAF Motor Supply Chain Squadron Commander. He then went to MacDill AFB, FL and was sent TDY to Prince Sultan AB in Saudi Arabia. He was recently assigned to Ramstein AB in Germany as the LRS Commander.

The LRS unit came into being after my retirement but Chris explained that it is a combination of the functions of Supply, Transportation, Logistics plans, and others that are now called Logistics Readiness Squadrons. Chris explained that different units have either standard or non-standard procedures and both have to manage supply chains. When assigned to US Special Operations Command, he led a team of nine airmen in setting up a new a new base in Syria. The facility would ordinarily require approximately 60 airmen a few weeks with their specific AFSCs. Chris' nine men were trained in multiple AFSCs. They accomplished the task in minimal time but Chris stated they ate quite a few MREs (Meals Ready to Eat).



A key to logistics is to determine the quantity of material needed and how long that material should last. The mission will determine how sustainable the material may last. Chris gave the example of the Israeli Air Force and their short, 5-to-6-day wars. If the battles had continued, they would have become low on munitions and other war material and would have required assistance from other nations. They were not sustainable to fight extended wars. Chris stated that the best logistician in history was Alexander the Great in 300 BC. Rather than immediately attacking the Persians, he marched along the Eastern Mediterranean and established supply points at the port cities. He then successfully attacked Darius and the Persians. Chris noted that the Persians direct retreat from the Macedonians was a logistics failure because without supply points, Darius lost thousands of men every day.



Our speaker, LtCol Chris Russell received a special commemorative plaque from our chapter president Dan Donovan recognizing Russell's unique relationship with our chapter.



Our own chapter Vice President, Ron Russell and his wife, Sharon, flanking their daughter-in-law, Roxanne, and their son, Chris who was our speaker.

Chris concluded by discussing the increasing use of predictive analytics to determine when and where to place material in a potential conflict, and to determine a potential enemy's logistics capability. Chris also responded to several questions. This was a superb presentation. Chris' professional knowledge was obvious and he possesses an exceptional speaking ability.

Nest month on October 19th, our speaker will be Brian Coffman, the Cass County Veterans Service Officer. Brian provided outstanding service to me a couple of years ago and I know at least one of our members is seeing him now. Bring those questions and get straight answers.

Our November 16th meeting is our ROTC Salute. Some of us believe that JROTC experience can lead to military enlistment. Besides our normal attendance with two cadets and the unit commander from the five university ROTC units,

we will have one cadet and unit commander from several high school JROTC units.

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

The PACT Act is now Law
(from VA.com)

The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. The law provides generations of Veterans — and their survivors — with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve. — The PACT Act will bring these changes:

- **Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras**
- **Adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures**
- **Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation**
- **Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care**
- **Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures**

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits. You can also call VA at 800-698-2411 (TTY: 711). You can file a claim for PACT Act-related disability compensation or apply for VA health care now.

- **[File a disability claim online](#)**
- **[Apply for VA health care](#)**

What does it mean to have a presumptive condition for toxic exposure?

To get a VA disability rating, your disability must connect to your military service. For many health conditions, you need to prove that your



Loretta and Dick Doolittle look ready to eat... "Where's that Salmon?"



Dan Donovan welcomes Nikki and Paul Nader. Nikki is a new member and was our speaker a few months ago.

service caused your condition. But for some conditions, the VA automatically assumes (or “presume”) that your service caused your condition. VA calls these “presumptive conditions.”

VA considers a condition presumptive when it's established by law or regulation.

If you have a presumptive condition, you don't need to prove that your service caused the condition. You only need to meet the service requirements for the presumption.

Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veteran eligibility-

These cancers are now presumptive:

- **Brain cancer**
- **Gastrointestinal cancer of any type**
- **Glioblastoma**
- **Head cancer of any type**
- **Kidney cancer**
- **Lymphatic cancer of any type**
- **Lymphoma of any type**
- **Melanoma**
- **Neck cancer of any type**
- **Pancreatic cancer**
- **Reproductive cancer of any type**
- **Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type**

These illnesses are now presumptive:

- **Asthma that was diagnosed after service**
- **Chronic bronchitis**
- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)**
- **Chronic rhinitis**
- **Chronic sinusitis**
- **Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis**
- **Emphysema**
- **Granulomatous disease**
- **Interstitial lung disease (ILD)**
- **Pleuritis**
- **Pulmonary fibrosis**
- **Sarcoidosis**



Ron and Maria Bailey are back in Nebraska now after spending some time in Belgium. Come next month and ask them about their trip.



David and Ginny McBlain are ready for their meals... David is wanting that steak, now.

How do you know you have presumptive exposure?

If you served in any of the following locations and time periods, the VA determined that you had exposure to burn pits or other toxins. It is called having a presumption of exposure.

On or after September 11, 2001, in any of these locations:

- **Afghanistan**
- **Djibouti**
- **Egypt**
- **Jordan**
- **Lebanon**
- **Syria**
- **Uzbekistan**
- **Yemen**
- **The airspace above any of these locations**

On or after August 2, 1990, in any of these locations:

- **Bahrain**
- **Iraq**
- **Kuwait**
- **Oman**
- **Qatar**
- **Saudi Arabia**
- **Somalia**
- **The United Arab Emirates (UAE)**
- **The airspace above any of these locations**
-



Leslie Pahre is really looking forward to dinner. She is ready to raise a toast to her table mates.

Vietnam era Veteran eligibility changes –

Based on the PACT Act, VA added 2 new Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

- **High blood pressure (also called hypertension)**
- **Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)**

If you think you're eligible for VA health care and benefits, we encourage you to apply now.

What new Agent Orange presumptive locations has VA added?

VA added these 5 new locations to the list of presumptive locations:

- **Any U.S. or Royal Thai military base in Thailand from January 9, 1962, through June 30, 1976**
- **Laos from December 1, 1965, through September 30, 1969**
- **Cambodia at Mimot or Krek, Kampong Cham Province from April 16, 1969, through April 30, 1969**

- **Guam or American Samoa or in the territorial waters off of Guam or American Samoa from January 9, 1962, through July 30, 1980**
- **Johnston Atoll or on a ship that called at Johnston Atoll from January 1, 1972, through September 30, 1977**

If you served on active duty in any of these locations, VA will automatically assume (or “presume”) that you had exposure to Agent Orange.

What now radiation preventative locations have been added?

VA added these 3 new response efforts to the list of presumptive locations:

- **Cleanup of Enewetak Atoll, from January 1, 1977, through December 31, 1980**
- **Cleanup of the Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons off the coast of Palomares, Spain, from January 17, 1966, through March 31, 1967**
- **Response to the fire onboard an Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons near Thule Air Force Base in Greenland from January 21, 1968, to September 25, 1968**

If you took part in any of these efforts, VA automatically assumes (or “presume”) that you had exposure to radiation.

What if VA denied my previous claim but now considers it “presumptuous”?

VA encourages you to file a Supplemental Claim. When VA receives your Supplemental Claim, they will review the claim again. [Find out how to file a Supplemental Claim](#)

Information for survivors –

Surviving family members might be eligible for the following benefits:

- **A monthly VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (VA DIC) payment. You may qualify if you’re the surviving spouse, dependent child, or parent of a Veteran who died from a service-connected disability. [Learn how to apply for VA DIC](#)**
- **A one-time accrued benefits payment. You may qualify if you’re the surviving spouse, dependent child, or dependent parent of a Veteran who VA owed**



Ahhh -- what a nice evening to share with your sweetheart... Linda and Mark are a photographer's perfect models.

unpaid benefits at the time of their death.

[Learn about evidence needed for accrued benefits](#)

- **A Survivors Pension.** You may qualify if you're the surviving spouse or child of a Veteran with wartime service.

[Learn how to apply for a Survivors Pension](#)

What if VA denied my previous DIC claim?

You can submit a new application for VA dependency and indemnity compensation (VA DIC). [Learn about VA DIC and how to apply](#)

Note: If VA denied your claim in the past and thinks you may be eligible now, they will try to contact you. VA may be able to reevaluate your claim, but you don't need to wait for VA to contact you before you reapply.



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 eight 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.

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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
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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 _____

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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, Vice President Ron Russell - 402-297-4244, **Membership:** Michael DeBolt 402-980-0554, **Surviving Spouse Affairs:** Martha Didamo - 402-292-2194, **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 402-871-8409, **Transition Liason:** Jack Nelson - 402-679-3725

(PLEASE UTILIZE OUR ADVERTIZERS ON FOLLOWING PAGES)

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You are our heroes."–

Pete Zekauskas

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The advertisement for The Special Restaurant, Inc. features a green banner at the top with the text "The best in American food" in white. Below the banner is a photo of a sandwich and fries. To the left of the photo is a badge that says "2018 SARPY COUNTY PEOPLE'S CHOICE Awards WINNER". To the right of the photo is the restaurant's logo, which is a yellow oval with the text "THE Special RESTAURANT, INC" and a sunflower icon. Below the logo is the text "Open: Tuesday - Friday 11am - 8pm Saturday & Sunday 8am - 2pm Closed Mondays". At the bottom of the ad is the address "303 Fort Crook Rd. N. Bellevue | 402-884-0441" and the website "Thespecialrestaurantinc.com" in a red button.

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Merrill proudly supports and thanks our military men and women for their courageous and patriotic service to the United States of America.



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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.



The world's best antidepressant has 4 legs, a wagging tail and comes with unconditional love.

I don't care who dies in a movie, as long as the dog lives.

Love is how excited your dog gets when you come home.

The reason we are born with two hands is so we can pet two dogs at once.

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 !!!**



October 19th Reservations for Members & invited guests

Social Hour starts at 6 PM – dinner at 7 PM

After dinner, our speaker will be Brian Coffman, the Cass County Vet Service Officer

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:

Chicken Parmesan with Pasta - \$28.00

French Fried Shrimp (6) with Scalloped Potatoes - \$33.00

House Salad with Steak Bites - \$27.00

Crème de Menthe 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

**Nonprofit Org
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