

**Minutes from the 6 June 2023 Chapter Meeting**  
**By CDR Doug Sheehan, USCG (Ret), Recording Secretary**

- **28** members and guests attended the **MOAA Portland Chapter Meeting** at the Monarch Hotel in Clackamas, OR. Chapter President **Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)** called the meeting to order at **1830**.
  - **President Mayer** made opening remarks and welcomed our guest speaker, **CDR Daniel T. Pippenger, USCG (Ret)**, Chief Operating Officer, Port of Portland.
  - **President Mayer** led the Pledge of Allegiance, **CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)** led the National Anthem, and **LCR Betty Fish-Ferguson, USA (Ret)** gave the Invocation.

**CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

- **President Mayer** pointed out that the submission for the Levels of Excellence Award was submitted on 30 April 2023. We should hear the results from MOAA National in August.
- She also pointed out that, if you plan your vacation with MOAA Vacations, the chapter will receive a royalty. The chapter recently obtained a royalty check.
- Save the Dates:
  - MOAA Portland Chapter Board of Directors meeting, 2 August 2023 at 0800 via Zoom
  - Advisory Committee to the OR Dept. of Veterans' Affairs Meeting, 7 June 2023 0930-1200, Location: Grants Pass or Virtual
  - United Veterans' Groups of Oregon (UVGO) Meeting, 8 July 2023 at 1200

**GUEST SPEAKER**

- After dinner, **CDR Daniel T. Pippenger, USCG (Ret)**, Chief Operating Officer, Port of Portland spoke to the chapter about Port of Portland history and current activities such as the changes in Terminal 2 and the upgrades to the Portland International Airport .

**BUSINESS SESSION**

- **Installation of New Members.** Installing Officer, **CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)**, installed individuals who were elected to serve as chapter officers during the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 program years.
  - **President:** Col Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)
  - **First Vice President:** LTC Gary Battles, USAR (Ret)
  - **Second Vice President:** Major William J. Tidd, USAF (Ret)
  - **Co-Recording Secretaries:** Lt Col Anneke Abma, USAF (Ret) (*Chapter Meetings*) & Maj Paul Granada, ANG (Ret) (*Board Meetings*)
  - **Reservations Secretary:** CDR Michael Seiwald, USN (Ret)
  - **Co-Treasurers:** LTC Myrna Trull, USA (Ret) & CDR Doug Sheehan, USCG (Ret)
- **Committee Reports:**
  - **Special Events Committee: LCDR Christopher Gale, USCG (Ret)**
    - A \$400 check will be presented to the JROTC Detachment at Oregon City High School and the JROTC Detachment at Reynolds High School to be used to support JROTC Activities.

- **Membership Committee: Maj Bill Tidd, USAF (Ret)/CAPT “Chicky” McKinzie, USN (Ret).**
  - We have 2 new members: **Maj Paul Granada, ANG (Ret)** and **LCDR Aaron Swerdlin, USN (Ret).**
  - **Membership Appreciation Drawing. Maj Paul Granada, ANG (Ret)** was chosen and received a complimentary dinner.
- **Legislative Committee: LTC Gary Battles, USAR (Ret)/CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)** noted that MOAA’s Advocacy in Action Event was conducted on 26 April 2023 on Capitol Hill. However, there are opportunities for the committee to engage the legislators in person when they are home during Congress’ August break. The committee will make appointments with each legislator then.
- **Fundraising Committee: CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)**
  - **2023 Oregon Women Veterans Conference** was held on 20-21 May in the Salem Convention Center. Five members from the chapter attended. The chapter donated \$500 and had a membership table at the event.
  - **The 42<sup>nd</sup> National Veterans Wheelchair Games** will be held 4-9 July. 750 Challenge Coins have been purchased by the chapter to present at the games. More volunteers are needed. To attend, there is no need to register; just show up and support the athletes.
- **Surviving Spouse: Ms. Jean Hillman.** The next Surviving Spouse Luncheon will be scheduled for later in June.
- **Personal Affairs: Col Mary Mayer, USAF (Ret)** noted the death of **Mrs. Eleanor Drenkhahn**, who passed 17 December 2022.
- **“FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER”**
  - The wine raffle raised **\$280**. Wine raffle winners were **Col Mary Mayer, Natalie Puha, Lt Col Anneke Abma, and Maj Paul Granada**
  - **Joke:** CAPT Tony Sebbio, USN (Ret) presented a joke.
  - **Colonel Mayer** stated the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Patriotic Tribute will be held on 4 July 2023 at the Volcanoes Stadium in Keizer, Oregon. For reservations, contact Jerry Howard at 503-779-4088 (cell).
- **CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAPTER PRESIDENT: Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)** thanked our guest speaker, those in attendance, **CAPT Sharon Sebbio, USN (Ret)** for the table decorations, and the staff of the Monarch Hotel for the wonderful meal and service..
  - The next chapter meeting will be held on: **Tuesday, 5 September 2023.**  
Location: **Columbia Room - Monarch Hotel in Clackamas, OR.**
    - **Guest Speaker: Captain J. Pearce Beissinger**, Assistant Medical Director, Portland Mountain Rescue
    - **Topic:** “Military Operations and Collaboration in Mount Hood Rescues”
  - **Next Brass Bulletin Newsletter:** Inputs for the **September 2023** newsletter are due no later than **6 August 2023.**
  - President Mayer wished all in attendance a Happy Fathers’ Day on 18 June and the United States Army a happy 248th birthday on 14 June.
- The meeting was **adjourned** at **2050.**