

Minutes from the 4 April 2023 Chapter Meeting
By CDR Doug Sheehan, USCGR (Ret), Recording Secretary

- **40** 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 back as our guest speaker, **MajGen Christopher Owens, USMC (Ret)**, Adjunct Professor of Political Science at Portland State and Western Oregon Universities and Chapter Board Member.
 - **President Mayer** led the Pledge of Allegiance, **CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)** led the National Anthem, and, **LCR Betty Fish-Ferguson, USN (Ret)** gave the Invocation.
 - The MOAA Portland Chapter continued to recognize and honor its Vietnam War veterans, surviving spouses, other family members, and caretakers by presenting them each with a Proclamation and Pin.
 - After dinner was served, **MajGen Christopher Owens, USMC (Ret)** spoke to us on “**Tensions over Taiwan.**”

BUSINESS SESSION

- **Chapter President’s Comments:** Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)
 - **Top Priority:** Reminder to pay your 2023 Chapter Dues
 - **Second Priority:** Bringing in New Members: Bring at least one guest to the next in-person chapter meeting on **Saturday, 6 May 2023**.
 - **Third Priority: Nominations for Chapter Officers for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 (2 Year Terms):**
 - **Treasurer:** CDR Doug J. Sheehan, USCGR (Ret)
 - **Recording Secretary:** *Take notes for 4 board meetings and 9-chapter meetings – Need volunteer(s)*
 - **Reservations Secretary:** CDR Michael Seiwald, USN (Ret)
 - **Second Vice President:** Major William J. Tidd, USAF (Ret)
 - **First Vice President:** LTC Gary D. Battles, USAR (Ret)
 - **President:** Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)
 - Next month, we will vote on our Chapter Officers, and in June they will be installed.
 - **Nomination Package Submission Date for the Levels of Excellence Award**
 - Due to MOAA National: 1 May 2023
 - Individual’s Activities in the community should be emailed to Mary **NLT 8 April 2023**
 - **Save the Dates – MOAA Events:**
 - **MOAA Portland Chapter Board of Directors Meeting** 3 May 2023, 0800, via Zoom
 - **Save the Dates – ODVA:**
 - **Advisory Committee to the Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs (ODVA) Meeting** 7 June 2023 Time: 0930-1200 Location: Grants Pass, OR
 - **Save the Dates – Other:**
 - **United Veterans’ Groups of Oregon (UVGO) Meeting** 8 April 2023
 - Time: 1200 Location: Via Zoom Video Teleconference
 - **Update on 42nd National Veterans Wheelchair Games**
 - **Dates:** 4-9 July 2023
 - **POC:** Major Shaun Benson, USA (Ret)
 - Need 3,800 volunteers for 4-hour shifts; volunteer **via www.wheelchairgames.com**

Committee Reports:

- **Membership Committee Report** by **Maj Bill Tidd, USAF (Ret)**: It looks as though we will have some new chapter members soon. A MOAA Blast e-mail was used for MajGen Owens to attract more attendance at our April meeting.
- **Scholarship Committee:** CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret): The chapter is about \$5,000 short of funding four designated chapter scholarships through the MOAA Scholarship Fund.
- **Status of Fundraising Project:** CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)
 - **Next Project: 2023 Oregon Women Veterans’ Biennial Conference**

- Hosted by the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Date: 20-21 May 2023 (Saturday & Sunday)
- **Sponsorship:** MOAA Portland Chapter will:
 - give at least a \$500 donation.
 - set up a MOAA Membership Table
- **Legislative Committee:** LTC Gary Battles, USAR (Ret)/CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)
 - **Advocate:** Sign and mail the 4 letters in the *Military Officer Magazine*
 - **MOAA's Advocacy in Action (AiA) Event** is to be held in Washington, DC on April 26, 2023. Learn more about the AiA topics and how to get involved at MOAA.org/aia.
- **Surviving Spouse:** Mrs. Jean Hillman asked all to email her with ideas on what the SS should pursue.
- **Personal Affairs:** Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)
 - No deaths since the last chapter meeting in March 2023.
- **Special Events Committee Report by:** Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)
 - **2023 MOAA LEADERSHIP AWARDS** will be presented to the following cadets at the University of Portland:
 - Air Force ROTC **Cadet Alexa M. Ulrich** and
 - Army ROTC **Cadet Jonathan Oliveras**
 - Both will be presented with a \$300 scholarship grant.
 - **2023 AFROTC AWARDS DINNER AND AROTC DINING OUT**
 - **AFROTC Annual Awards Dinner:** Tuesday, 25 April 2023, 1630: social; 1700-2020: dinner and awards presentation, Bauccio Commons, University of Portland Campus
 - **AROTC Dining Out:** Thursday, 20 April 2023, Bauccio Commons, University of Portland Campus
- **GOLD BAR PROGRAM**
 - The Chapter will continue to present Gold Bars this year to the 14 AROTC and 5 AFROTC commissioning cadets from the University of Portland.
- **JROTC Detachments**
 - Army JROTC - Oregon City High School
 - Army JROTC - Reynolds High School
- Presentation of
 - MOAA Leadership Awards presented to a JROTC cadet at each high school
 - Reynolds: 17 March 2023 – Military Ball – Cadet Savannah Anderson
 - OCHS: 5 April 2023 – Award – Cadet Staff Sergeant Evan Roberts
 - \$300 to each Detachment Commander to support JROTC Activities.
- **USAA Sponsorship Funds Program for 2023**
 - Request for \$300 approved and received for 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and **2023**.

“For the Good of the Order”

- **Wine Raffle winners were:** LCDR Betty Fish-Ferguson, USN (Ret) and Mrs. Jan Brink
- **Joke:** CAPT Tony Sebbio, USN (Ret) gave the joke.

Closing Remarks by Chapter President: Col Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)

- **Next Meeting:** Saturday, 6 May 2023
 - **Guest Speaker** will be Lt Col Ryan L. Barton, USAF, Deputy Commander, 142 Mission Support Group, Portland Air National Guard Base
 - **Topic:** “QUGVs (Quadrupedal Unmanned Ground Vehicles) (Robotic Dogs)”
- **Next Brass Bulletin Newsletter:** Inputs for the June 2023 newsletter are due no later than **Monday, 8 May 2023**.
- President Mayer wished all in attendance a happy Easter and Passover.

The meeting was **adjourned at 2033**.