

Minutes from the 5 April 2022 Chapter Meeting

By CDR Doug Sheehan, USCGR (Ret), Recording Secretary

- **41** members and guests attended the MOAA Portland Chapter Virtual Meeting via Zoom. Chapter President, **Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)**, called the meeting to order at **1830**.
- **President Mayer** reminded everyone that this was the first meeting the chapter has held in-person for two years and commented that the Monarch Hotel had been completely remodeled. She hoped all had celebrated the National Vietnam war Veterans' Day in the United States on 29 March 2022 – and “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans' Day” in Oregon on 30 March 2022.
- **Col Mayer** recognized **Major Kelly Fitzpatrick, USA (Ret)**, ODVA Director and chapter member, and presented her with a premium bottle of wine which the chapter owed her from the March 2022 chapter meeting where she was the guest speaker. She also recognized the guest speaker and chapter member, **MajGen Christopher Owens, USMC**, and his wife **Rita**.
- **President Mayer** led the Pledge of Allegiance; **CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)** sang the National Anthem; and **Lt Col Jim Warnock, USAF (Ret)** gave the Invocation.
- **Chapter President's Comments:** Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)
 - **Chapter Budget and Membership Dues:**
 - All budget items are on track, except payment of annual membership dues.
 - Out of the **112 regular** members, **84** regular members and **5** Surviving Spouse members are current with their dues.
 - That leaves 28 regular members who have not paid **2022** dues, covering the period 1 January-31 December 2022. Members are supposed to have submitted dues to the Treasurer by 1 January 2022.
 - **Finding volunteers to fill the following positions:**
 - **Special Events Committee Chair** – **LCDR Christopher Gale, USCG (Ret)** is replacing **Captain Doug MacEllven, USAF (Former)** who resigned in June 2021.
 - **Decorations Committee Chair** – Thanks are due **CAPT Sharon Sebbio, USN (Ret)** who volunteered to take over this position. However, because of her busy travel schedule, she needs another volunteer to step up and help her. It was announced that **Mrs. Nancy Menagh** has volunteered to help Sharon with the decorations.
 - **Second USAF Representative on the Board** – Another volunteer is needed to replace **Captain Doug MacEllven, USAF (Former)** who resigned in June 2021.
 - **Nomination Package Submission Date for the Levels of Excellence Award**
 - Due to MOAA National: 1 May 2022
 - **Save the Dates – MOAA Events:**
 - **MOAA Oregon State Council of Chapters Board Meeting** – To be determined.
 - **MOAA Board Meeting and**– 24-26 April 2022 in Arlington, VA
 - **MOAA Council Presidents' Seminar** – to be held virtually on 28 April 2022
 - **MOAA Portland Chapter Board of Directors Meeting** – Thursday, 5 May 2022
 - **Save the Dates – ODVA:**
 - **Advisory Committee to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) Meeting** – Wednesday, 1 June 2022 from 0930-1200 noon via Zoom
 - **Save the Dates – Other:**
 - **United Veterans' Groups of Oregon (UVGO) Meeting** – Saturday, 9 April 2022
 - **Oregon Vietnam War Memorial Gala Event - Saturday, 7 May 2022** at 6:00 pm at NW Events in Hillsboro, OR.
 - **42nd National Veterans Wheelchair Games** – 4-9 July 2023 in Portland, OR
 - **Status of Fundraising Project:**
 - **Next Project:** The Chapter Board of Directors will select a new charity project at its 5 May 2022 meeting.

- **Committee Reports**
 - **Membership Committee Report** by Major William J. Tidd, USAF (Ret)
 - Introduction of Guests: Chapter members introduced their guests to the rest of the membership! **Major Tidd** challenged each attendee to bring a guest to the 7 May 2022 chapter meeting.

- After dinner, **Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)** introduced guest speaker and fellow chapter Board member, **MajGen Christopher Owens, USMC (Ret)**, Former Director of the Expeditionary Warfare Division (OPNAV N95) and Chapter Board Member, who spoke to the group on **“Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, and the West: Violent Revisionism.”** The presentation was well-received, and after a lively Q&A Session and lots of good discussion, **President Mayer** presented **MajGen Owens** with a memento from the chapter.

- **Committee Reports (continued):**
 - **Special Events Committee** by **LCDR Christopher Gale, USCG (Ret)**
 - **Col Mayer** will present the **MOAA ROTC Award** and **\$300 scholarship** to **Cadet Konnor Hathaway** at the **Air Force ROTC Dining-Out** on **Tuesday, 12 April 2022** at the **Commons** at the **University of Portland**. She will also present the 16 commissioning cadets with their first set of Gold Bars.
 - **LCDR Gale** will present the **MOAA ROTC Award** and **\$300 scholarship** to **Cadet Kaylee Ocheltree** at the **Army ROTC Dining-Out** at the Edgefield McMEnamin’s Edgefield on **Thursday, 28 April 2022**. He will also present 18 commissioning cadets with their first set of Gold Bars.
 - **Junior ROTC (JROTC) Connections:** **LCDR Gale** will present the MOAA JROTC Award to **Cadet Mason Gram** on 31 March 2022 at Reynolds High School and to **Cadet Elana Lathrop** on 7 April 2022 at Oregon City High School.
 - **Legislative Committee:** LTC Gary Battles, USAR (Ret)/CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret): MOAA’s Advocacy in Action is being held virtually this year from 1-29 April 2022. This year’s advocacy topics: Support the Richard Starr Act, Reduce TRICARE Mental Health Copayments, and Enact a 4.6% Military Pay Raise in the FY2023 NDAA. **Lt Col Tom Majchrowski, USAF (Ret)**, MOAA Oregon State Council President, has asked the MOAA Portland Chapter to help him contact some of the Oregon legislators while they are back in their home districts from 11-22 April 2022.
 - **Communications Committee:** CDR Dave Bredemann, USN (Ret): The website is updated.
 - **Surviving Spouse Liaison:** Mrs. Jean Hillman: A Surviving Spouse Luncheon is being planned for Wednesday, 20 April 2022 at 12:00 noon at the Claim Jumper in Tualatin.
 - **Personal Affairs Committee:** Col Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret): No report.

- **“For the Good of the Order”**
 - **Raffle:** **CAPT Larry Roberts, USNR (Ret)** conducted the raffle. Winner of a bottle of wine each are: **Mrs. Jean Hillman, CDR Doug Sheehan, Maj Setsy Larouche, Mrs. Rita Owens, CAPT Tony Sebbio, Mrs. Barbara Brooks-Lacey, and CDR Mike Carmichael**. In total, the chapter raised **\$340.00** in raffle tickets.
 - **Joke:** **CDR Dave Bredemann, USN (Ret)** presented the joke.

- **Closing Remarks by Chapter President:**
 - Thanked **MajGen Owens** for an excellent presentation, those who attended the meeting, and the staff of the Monarch Hotel for the wonderful meal and service!
 - **Next Meeting:** Saturday, 7 May 2022 at The Aerie at Eagle Landing
 - **Guest Speaker** will be **LtCol Ara E. Barton, USMC (Ret)** from Insitu (a Boeing Subsidiary) and **Topic** will be “What is New in Drone Technology?”

- **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at **2048**.