

CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER, NEW YORK MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 3

MAY-JUNE 2018

Visit us at cdnymoaa.org



4-Star Chapter – 2016, 2015, 2009



2018 NYS COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS CONVENTION

You are cordially invited to attend the 46th Annual Meeting of the New York State Council of Chapters, MOAA.

WHEN: Monday, **September 10th** through Thursday, **September 13th**, 2018

WHERE: Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base, Niagara Falls, NY,
<http://www.niagara.afrc.af.mil/>

Niagara Falls, one of the Greatest Wonders of the World, is a short hop, skip, and jump from the Base, which is home to both the 914th Air Refueling Wing (USAF Reserves) and the 107th Air Attack Wing (NY Air National Guard). The Convention Committee has planned some very inspirational and exciting events, activities, meals, camaraderie, and updates on our mission to protect the rights of military servicemembers and their families because we “Never Stop Serving.”

The Full Package Price is for standard air conditioned Visiting Officers Quarters. There are other options for those coming in only for Wednesday’s Banquet. The Full Package includes the following events:

Three buffet breakfasts in The Heritage Center	Welcome Buffet Dinner
Round Trip Transportation – Niagara Air Base to Naval Park	Visit to the Buffalo Military and Naval Park with a Catered Luncheon aboard the USS Little Rock
Dinner at Chef’s Italian Restaurant – One of Buffalo’s Top 15 Eateries, including Transportation	Annual Business Meeting featuring Chapter Reports and briefing from MOAA National Representative
Double-Decker Bus Tour of Renovated Downtown Buffalo	Memorial Service for Chapter Members Called Home Over the Past Year
Annual Banquet and Awards	Daily Ice-Breaker “Training” with beverages & snacks
Raffle Baskets, 50/50 drawings	All tips and gratuities

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Registration and 50% deposit due by 11 Jul 2018. The balance is due 10 Aug 2018. Reservations AFTER 20 Jul 2018 accepted on space available basis. *There will be no cancellations accepted after 15 Aug 2018 (unless there are extenuating circumstances).*

2018 NYS COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS CONVENTION (*CONTINUED*)

SO...WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PAYMENTS?

- First Payment: 50% Deposit is due by 11 July 2018
- Final payment due NLT 10 August 2018
- Make checks payable to: *MOAA Convention 2018*
- Mail the ENTIRE Reservation Form (page 5), your Meal Selections (page 6), Entry Access Information (page 6), and your check to:

Norma Weissend, CoC Convention Chair
4587 Ridge Rd, Canandaigua, NY 14424
(585) 727-6190

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE EVENT - CONTACT

Norma Weissend: 585-727.6190
normaweis@roadrunner.com

Tim Balunis: 716-573-5401
Balunis@roadrunner.com

Skip Bebernitz: 518-237-4738
ebeberni@nycap.rr.com

Peggy Phillips: 607-743-8470
pipakapeg@earthlink.net

TENTATIVE CONVENTION SCHEDULE, 10 - 13 September 2018

Monday, September 10th

- Registration in the lobby of Bldg 300 (between 2 & 4 PM)
- Distribution of Welcome Bags, Tickets and Schedules
- Welcome Buffet Dinner



Tuesday, September 11th

- Buffet Breakfast in The Heritage Center
- Visit to Buffalo Military & Naval Park with CoC Memorial Service and luncheon on the USS Little Rock
- Dinner at Chef's Italian Restaurant

Wednesday, September 12th

- Buffet Breakfast in The Heritage Center
- Convention Business Meeting (spouses & friends have free time to explore)
- Council of Chapters Business and Reports
- Lunch on your own, followed by free time for all
- New York State Council of Chapters Officer Annual Banquet with Guest Speaker from MOAA National, presentation of MOAA's Level Of Excellence Awards



Thursday, September 13th

- Farewell Buffet Breakfast in The Heritage Center
- Room checkout and good-byes

**** "TRAINING SESSIONS" each evening Mon., Tue., & Wed., before and after dinner**



We hope you are able to attend, *and we encourage you to invite your family and friends to join us.* If you wish to come early or stay after the convention, Billeting may accommodate on a space-A basis and you are to make your own arrangements with Billeting.

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS


**NEXT MEETING/LUNCHEON – Sunday JUNE 10, 1300 - 1600 hours
Edison Club, Rexford, NY**

GUEST SPEAKER: – Jim Ketcham – “Mark Twain Erupts”



“Mark Twain was one of the most prolific and acerbic commentators on religion and politics in his time, and his words are remarkably relevant to today's headlines, nearly 120 years after his death. He also knew how to poke fun at himself, a refreshing talent sadly lacking in most public figures today. Join us as Jim Ketcham performs as Mark Twain, using Twain's own words to describe ‘the whole damned human race.’” [Image at left from Wikipedia]

REMINDER: Please get your reservation and payment to CHRIS COSTIGAN NOT LATER THAN Tuesday June 5. The Edison Club needs a final count by the Wednesday before our meeting. If you plan to attend, even if you aren't 100% sure, PLEASE PAY IN ANTICIPATION. THE CLUB NOW CHARGES US FOR MEALS ORDERED, not only for those served. **And don't forget dues for 2018, if you haven't already paid.** If you paid this year's dues, thank you for your support. [The luncheon reservation form is on page 7.]

HIGHLIGHTED CHARITY for this edition → BOOKS FOR TROOPS 

BOOKS FOR TROOPS, INC, (BFT) was started in southern Saratoga County, in April 2010 by retired school teacher, Ellen Keegan, to gather books to send to our troops serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. Her idea was to give them a source of escape from the horrors they were seeing each day; to offer them a release from loneliness, boredom, stress, homesickness, and fear; and to show them that they were not forgotten by those at home whom they were sacrificing so much to keep free. BFT's mission has expanded over the years to include 22 VA hospitals across the US; the American Red Cross Wounded Warriors Program, the families of the troops, in particular the children, and most importantly the troops deployed all over the world.

At this time, BFT would like you to hold on to the books you want to donate. They are short on space and will be using the next few months to correct it and send out books more frequently. **BFT will still accept puzzle books, DVDs, books on tape, and comics.** You may bring items to our dinner meeting or drop them off at their office, 2:30-4:30 on Monday or Friday, at 668 Route 9, Latham; about 200 ft. north of Bella Napoli Bakery in a mini-mall next to a pizza place. (Ring the doorbell in the middle of the door.) All donated items remain in Latham unless they have the money to send the boxes of items and books. So, please make a donation or support their fundraisers. (Mail checks or money orders to Books For Troops, Inc., 152 Oak Brook Commons, Clifton Park, NY 12065) [<http://booksfortroopscp.webs.com/>]

CHAPTER NEWS & OTHER EVENTS

- **At our last meeting in April**, guest speaker Dave Hubbard from Grant Cottage recounted the exploits of five amazing women who collected critical intelligence for their side during the Civil War (“**Spies in Hoopskirts**”). Some were well-known persons in their time (Belle Boyd, Harriet Tubman); others escaped notice then, and have been largely overlooked since, until Dave “outed” them at our meeting.
- **JROTC news:** On April 23, Chapter President Skip Bebernitz presented the MOAA JROTC award to cadet **Drew Douglass, Christian Brothers Academy, Albany**, at their award night. On May 9, Chapter member Col. Robert Smullen, USMC (Ret.), presented the MOAA award to cadet **Michael Morales, Marine Corps JROTC, Amsterdam High School**. *June 1 is the Albany HS JROTC awards night.*

2018 CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

August 11 (tentative) – the Scheibers' home on Lake George

November 3 – 1000 hrs., NYS Military Heritage Museum, Saratoga

Aug 21 is the deadline for submitting news articles, photos, bio's, or stories for the *next* issue. Please e-mail your input to newsletter editor Al Memole at amemole1@nycap.rr.com

(Chapter News & Other Events continued)

- The **Chapter Nominating Committee** (Rocco Acquilano, Al Memole, and Pat Piccirilli) will be seeking prospective nominees for Chapter leadership positions. If you are interested in helping to lead our Chapter and want to make sure you're not overlooked, contact one of the committee members, or just send a note to the Chapter mailbox expressing your interest and any specific position(s) for which you would like to be considered. *We have an immediate need for a Treasurer.*
- **Chapter Member Service Proposal:** *Our Chapter should form a committee to set up a program for pick-up and delivery of medical prescriptions for other members and retirees unable to drive to Saratoga Springs.* The survey from the last newsletter did not prompt a significant response: One member supported it; four were not in favor. Perhaps the response might have been different if we knew of people, by name, who could use this type of assistance. So, if you need this help or know of someone who does, please provide the names and addresses to one of the Chapter officers or board members, and we'll republish the call for volunteers.
- **Chapter funds:** Should we raise the annual Chapter dues from \$15 to something more substantial? If so, by how much? *Let us know your thoughts on this.*
- **ATTENTION all GOLFERS!!**
 - **AUSA Capital District of New York Chapter 7th Annual Golf Tournament fundraiser:** Monday, June 11, starting 0730 at Eagle Crest Golf Course in Clifton Park. The \$125 registration fee for provides 18 holes of golf, a cart, a continental breakfast, a hamburger/hotdog lunch at the turn and a steak buffet at the awards presentation. They will also hold a ceremony and cake cutting at 0830 to mark the 243rd Birthday of the U.S. Army. Hoo-ah! Registration deadline is June 4. **See flyer for additional information and registration form on page 8.**
 - **3rd Annual Capital Region Toys for Tots Golf Invitational:** Monday, July 30, starting at noon, at the Edison Club. This is a fundraiser that will help over 160,000 in 14 upstate counties. Entry fees are \$650 per foursome; \$170 per individual. Fees include cart and clubs, if needed, 18 holes, lunch, dinner, and beverages, giveaways and prizes, and, of course, a donation. Register by e-mail to Shelby at shansen@capitalregiontoysfortots.org. **See informational flyer on page 9.**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPTER PRESIDENT



It is with great regrets that I must inform you that on 6 May, **Fred Ames, CW4, Ret.**, died. He led the life of a dedicated family man and of self-less service to his community, his church, his state and his country. He was a Life Member of MOAA and for the past several years he has been the treasurer of this chapter of MOAA. He will truly be missed.

I am very pleased to announce that Ralph Folger has again been recognized by MOAA with a 5 Star COL Harris Communication Award for the chapter's website and that Al Memole has received the 5 Star COL Harris Communication Award for the chapter's newsletter.

The person who will be representing MOAA at this year's **NYS Council of Chapters convention** will be **Admiral Doran**. He grew up in Albany, was a graduate of VI in Albany, as a teen he spent his summers as a deck hand for the Lake George Steamship Company. He had a great Naval career that culminated as CINCPAC. This year's convention will be based out of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base with many interesting activities planned. At this year's MOAA annual meeting, Walt will become the Chairman of the MOAA Board of Directors

Teri Coles, COL, USA, Ret will be representing MOAA **at our 9 Dec Luncheon Meeting**. She is the Senior Director of Council and Chapter Affairs.

Jim Ketcham will be doing "Mark Twain Erupts" **at our June Luncheon**, hope to see you there!

Skip Bebernitz 📧

NYS Council of Chapters 46th Annual Convention 2018 Reservation Form

Please return ALL pages with your deposit.

You will receive a confirmation via email.

Registration and deposit due by 15 Jul 18. The balance is due 10 Aug 18

Name _____ Rank _____ Service _____

Address _____ City _____ ST ____ Zip _____

Spouse/Guest: _____ Name Tag Names: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Chapter &/or Council Position (if applicable): _____

Any Special Accommodation Considerations?

Example: handicap access, bed type or number, dietary needs, etc. There is no guarantee on bed type however.

Please enter here: _____

CONVENTION PRICING (includes room, events, and meals)

Options <small>Please Circle Choices</small>	PACKAGES <small>(See Agenda for Details)</small>	Price	50% DEPOSIT	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
1	Std VOQ Room One King Bed			
2	Standard VOQ Room 2 Double Beds			
3	Couple in a Room <i>FULL PACKAGE MON - THU</i>	\$ 660.00	\$ 330.00	
4	Single in a Room <i>FULL PACKAGE MON - THU</i>	\$ 420.00	\$ 210.00	
5	WED NIGHT ONLY Couple in a Room, Banquet, Hospitality, and Fri Breakfast	\$ 191.00	\$ 95.50	
6	WED NIGHT ONLY Single in a Room, Banquet, Hospitality, and Fri Breakfast	\$ 126.00	\$ 63.00	
7	*** WED BANQUET ONLY *** NO OVERNIGHT NO HOSP RM \$45 PER PERSON	\$ 45.00	FULL PAYMENT BY 10 AUG 2018	\$ 45.00
		TOTAL		

BANQUET MEAL SELECTIONS

Please identify your choices for your Banquet Meal
Wednesday, 12 September 2018

If you are filling the form out as a couple,

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHOICES CLEAR!

BANQUET DINNER CHOICES

_____ Prime Rib

_____ Chicken Parmesan

_____ Broiled Salmon

=====

Because we are visiting and being billeted on a U.S. Military Installation, we must provide the Base Security Forces with an EAL, or an "Entry Authorization List," several weeks prior to our arrival. Please excuse the delicacy of the following questions. We respect your privacy and the information provided here will be destroyed as soon as we pass it on to the Pass & ID section.

	MOAA MEMBER Possess Military ID? Y N	GUEST Possess Military ID? Y N
RANK		
LAST NAME		
FIRST NAME		
DOB		
DRIVERS LICENCE		
CITIZENSHIP		
NATIONALITY		
PASSPORT NUMBER (If Applicable)		

WHEN YOU COME TO THE BASE GATE, HAVE YOUR MILITARY ID (OR DRIVERS LICENSE) READY. EACH

INDIVIDUAL IN THE VEHICLE MUST PRESENT A DRIVERS LICENSE OR A FORM OF GOVERNMENT

IDENTIFICATION.

KEEP THE TOP HALF OF THIS PAGE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

CHAPTER OFFICERS

CHAPTER OFFICE	INCUMBENT	E-MAIL
President	Ernest "Skip" Bebernitz, MAJ USA, RET	pres@cdnymoaa.org
1 st Vice President	Christopher J. Costigan, CDR USN, RET	1vp@cdnymoaa.org
2 nd Vice President	Emanuel "Manny" Biondi, MAJ USA, RET	2vp@cdnymoaa.org
Secretary	Ralph Folger, LCDR USNR, RET	secr@cdnymoaa.org
Treasurer	[Fred Ames, CW4 USA, RET] R.I.P.	

We need a volunteer to replace Fred as Treasurer to manage our finances and accounts. Please consider helping.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anthony J. Ficara*, COL USA, RET	Edmund M. Scheiber, Jr.**, Lt Col USAF, RET
Rocco D. Acquilano, CDR, USNR, RET	Thomas W. Lenahan, Capt USAF, RET
Martin Leukhardt**, RADM USNR, RET	Charles Marshall, CWO4 USNR, RET
Alfred M. Memole, LTC USA, RET	Ronald Neaton**, CAPT USNR, RET

* Immediate Past-President ** Former President

LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Date: **JUNE 10, 2018**

Location: **Edison Club, Rexford, NY**

Time: 1:00PM - Social Hour
2:00PM – Dinner

Menu Choices: *FLAT IRON STEAK CHICKEN ALEXANDER PECAN-ENCRUSTED SALMON*

Price: **\$30.00** per person (Please make checks payable to: NYS-CDC.)

To pay Chapter dues for **2018**, please add **\$15.00** to your total.

Send reservation form and check to: **Chris Costigan** (phone: 518-884-2943)
153 Paisley Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020-2109

Please make your reservation Not Later Than Tuesday, **June 5.**

Your name: _____	Choices:	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Menu Item</u>
Number of persons attending: _____		_____	Flat Iron Steak
		_____	Chicken Alexander
		_____	Pecan-Encrusted Salmon

The Association of the U.S. Army
Capital District – New York Chapter



CELEBRATING
THE UNITED STATES ARMY'S
243rd BIRTHDAY

GOLF
FUND RAISER

11 June 2018
Eagle Crest Golf Course, 1004 Route 146 A, Clifton Park, NY 12065

\$125.00

includes: green fees & cart

Continental breakfast

Lunch (Grab and Go)

Steak Buffet (cash bar)

Awards and Prizes

Non-golfers are invited to join us for the buffet at 1500 hrs for
\$25.00 per person

The "Scramble," "Longest Drive" and "Closest to the Pin" contests are a fund raiser to benefit AUSA programs and support Soldiers, Veterans and their Families. Join us for a full day of golf, a Posting of the Colors by the New York Army National Guard and a cake cutting ceremony, celebrating the U.S. Army's 243rd birthday.

POC:

John Willsey

518.496.2669

jwillsfc@aol.com



0730-0830 registration and continental breakfast
0900 shot gun start
1400 turn in scorecard, and raffle sales
1500 buffet (cash bar), prizes and awards,
raffle results

**TEAM
ENTRY FORM**

Team Name: _____

Make checks payable to:
CD-NY Chapter-AUSA
and mail no later than

4 June 2018 to:

John Willsey
48 McDonald Drive
Cohoes, NY 12047

Player 1: _____
(Team CPT or individual registration)

Player 2: _____

Player 3: _____

Player 4: _____



Golfers! We Need YOU!

The Capital Region Toys for Tots reached the lives of over 160,000 children in 2017 throughout 14 counties within our local community. We need the help of you, our amazing supporters, to continue to reach as many children in need as possible. We are having our 3rd Annual Capital Region Toys for Tots Golf Invitational!

We had rave reviews from our golfers of last year and hope you can join us for a fun and relaxing day supporting our community!

When: Monday, July 30th – Shotgun start 12:00pm

Where: The Edison Club, Rexford NY

Tournament pricing is \$650 for a foursome of golf or \$170.00 for a single player.

This fee includes:

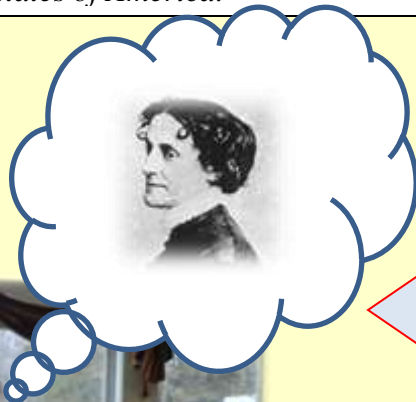
- **Golf Cart and Clubs if needed.**
- **18 holes of shotgun golf on a beautiful private course at the Edison Club.**
- **Lunch, dinner, and beverages throughout the day.**
- **Giveaways and prizes.**
- **Supporting the youth of our local community!**

To register for golf, become a sponsor, or donate a raffle item, please email Shelby at shansen@capitalregiontoysfortots.org

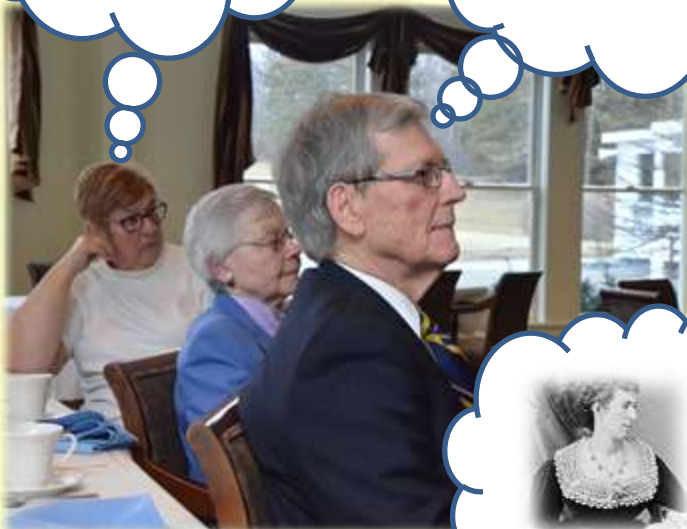
Reserve your spot today!



The NYS Capital District Chapter and the Military Officers Association of America are non-partisan member organizations that honor, assist, and advocate for all who serve and have served honorably in the uniformed services of the United States of America.



Dave Hubbard's account of female spies during the Civil War at our April dinner meeting caused Chapter members to ponder our nation's exciting history and the ordinary, yet extraordinary people who made it.



2018 UPCOMING CHAPTER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON MEETINGS
October 14 – Guest Speaker: *Melody Burns*, Veterans Miracle Center
December 9 – Annual Business Meeting and Christmas/Holiday Party, Guest Speaker: *COL Terri Coles*, MOAA Chapter Affairs
Dates, speakers subject to change.

WWII 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION EVENTS AT THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL
Monday, May 28 - Memorial Day Observance
Monday, July 9 - Battle of Sicily 75th Anniv.



New York State Capital District Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
PO Box 373
Waterford, NY 12188-0373

