



# Quarterly Newsletter



Issue No. 90

<https://mocnew.com/>

February 2023

## Club News

### New Member

Please welcome our newest member:

- **COL Henry (Hank) Plautz, USA.** He and his wife, **Jody**, live in Appleton.

### March Dinner Meeting

The Club will hold its March Dinner meeting at The Marq Supper Club on Thursday, March 9, 2023. This will also be our annual Business Meeting. The guest speaker is **Capt. Erin Stone, JAGC, USN (Ret.)**, the MOAA Senior Director, Council and Chapter Affairs.

Because this will be a busy meeting, the evening begins at 5:00 pm with check-in. Dinner will begin at 6:00 pm.

Patriotic musical entertainment will be provided by **Sam Skiff**, a Cadet in the ROTC program and a member of the St Norbert College Chorus.

### **Capt. Erin E. Stone, JAGC, USN (Ret.)** **Senior Director, Council and Chapter Affairs**

Born and raised in Lockport, IL, **Capt. Stone** earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics (Operations Analysis) from the U.S. Naval Academy. A member of the Virginia Bar, she received her Juris Doctor from the Georgetown University Law Center and her Master of Laws in Litigation and Dispute Resolution from the George Washington University.

Stone retired from the Navy's Judge Advocate General's Corps in 2017. Over the course of her Navy career, she played a central role in the development, implementation, and execution of strategic plans and policy; oversaw worldwide provision of criminal defense and legal aid services for service members and their families; and personally defended countless military members in criminal cases and administrative hearings.

Stone joined the MOAA team in January 2018 serving as Program Director first for Engagement and then for Council & Chapter Affairs. Currently, as Senior Director for Council and Chapter Affairs, she develops strategy and builds relationships to maintain a nationwide affiliate system which supports MOAA's goal to achieve and sustain maximum influence in shaping relevant government policy.



**Capt. Erin Stone.**

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# President's Corner



Dear Members and Spouses,

I'm looking forward to spring and the upcoming Club events.

Our Dinner meetings are set for 2023 starting with March 9<sup>th</sup>, which will be held at the "The Marc Supper Club" in De Pere. It's our annual business meeting, including a visit from Captain Erin Stone, JAGC, USN (Ret.), MOAA's Senior Director of Council and Chapter Affairs from Washington DC. To end the evening, Sam Skiff from the St. Norbert College Chorus, will sing Patriotic music.

The June 8<sup>th</sup> dinner will be held at "The Automobile Gallery" in Green Bay. It has put Green Bay on the map for car enthusiasts and collectors around the world! Take a peek at their website, [www.theautomobilegallery.org](http://www.theautomobilegallery.org).

The September 7<sup>th</sup> dinner is scheduled for the historic "Riverside Ballroom Room" in Green Bay. After a great meal, Daddy D Productions will perform the "Buddy Holly Show" tribute.

December 14<sup>th</sup> is our annual Christmas Dinner at the Oneida Golf and Country club in Green Bay. We will hold our annual Christmas raffle and seasonal music will follow the meal.

We are looking to fill several positions on our Chapter Board. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Photographer. If you are interested, please call or email me and I will provide position descriptions. These are key positions for Board operations. [jim.lienau@gmail.com](mailto:jim.lienau@gmail.com), Cell 920-639-0000.

Best regards,

Jim

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## December/Christmas Dinner Meeting

**Editor's Note:** The following is the Press Release that was sent out after the Christmas Dinner Party.



### THE MILITARY OFFICERS CLUB OF NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN, INC.

An Affiliate of the  
Military Officers Association of America

Army  
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Space Force  
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### “VETERANS SUPPORTING VETERANS”

**GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN MOC of NEW, Inc.**—The Military Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin (MOC NEW) held their Annual Christmas dinner and meeting on Wednesday evening, December 8, 2022, at the Oneida Golf and Country Club in Green Bay, WI. MOC NEW is Chapter 104 and a Member of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) an association of current, former, and retired officers of all the uniformed services. MOC NEW's membership is 130 strong.

The final quarterly meeting, dinner, and entertainment event of calendar year 2022 highlighted the organization's delivery of seven grants to deserving non-profit veteran services organizations. All seven organizations are located within our 20-County service area of northeastern Wisconsin.

Recipients of these grants are as follows:

- Camp American Legion
- Northeastern Wisconsin Veterans Treatment Court
- Outagamie County Veterans Treatment Court
- Sheboygan Area Veterans Court
- 4<sup>th</sup> H.O.O.A.H Wisconsin
- Old Glory Honor Flight in Appleton, WI
- Disabled American Veterans of Wisconsin

Beginning in 2014, the local Chapter has hosted an annual fund-raising golf event, the Veterans Benefit Golf Outing, “VBGO.” Since its inception (9 years), the event has generated and further donated \$685,000 to area veteran services organizations. In 2022, the VBGO generated over \$75,000 in donations and sponsorships from local businesses and donors. A committee of MOC NEW members consisted of Fred White, Joe Tullbane, John Friedel and Mike Egan, organized, and managed the annual event. Of course, the VBGO would not have been possible without the many volunteers who assisted with this major event. Volunteers included MOC NEW members, their spouses and family members, local volunteer groups, and interested parties. With the passing of founding member Fred White in 2022, it was with great honor, that the MOC NEW dedicated and renamed its event to the Fred White Memorial Veterans Benefit Golf Outing. In addition, the Fred White Memorial VBGO Committee also transitioned in 2022, with the following new membership: Chairman Dan Ammerman, Chad Luebke, Michael Steering, Jim Strong, John Breuninger, Dan Mullen and Jim Lienau.

The intent of the Fred White Memorial VBGO is two-fold, first, to fill the field of 144 players (36 teams) and second, to generate financial resources to be further vetted to deserving veteran non-profit services organizations.

Each applicant organization is requested to provide a needs assessment and a projected use plan for any resources provided to them through the MOC NEW grant application process. Entities who

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Founded on 20 May 1958 as The Retired Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc.  
P.O. Box 12802 Green Bay WI 54307-2802

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receive a grant are also required to provide a financial report at the end of the funding cycle which identifies the actual uses of grant funding.

The evening's emcee was Retired MG Dan Ammerman, USA, who serves as the organization's Programs Director as well as the Chairman of the Fred White Memorial VBGO Committee. The program included the following events: Presentation of the Colors by four University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh ROTC Cadets; a great meal, provided by the Oneida Country Club's Chef and staff; a brief presentation and report by our Chapter President, Retired LTC Jim Lienau, USA; our annual Christmas raffle; the grants award ceremony conducted by Ammerman and Lienau; and, last but certainly not least, was a musical performance by the Baylander Barbershop Quartet which delighted the participants and attendees with a selection of Christmas, patriotic, and other songs of tidings and great cheer.

Emcee Ammerman concluded the evening's events by saying: "I think it's great that we as a military officers club are able to help other veteran services organizations, but I think what is more important is what these organizations do for the veterans in our communities."



Pictured from Left to Right are the 2022 veteran service organization's designated recipients and the grant presenters:

Northeast Wisconsin Treatment Court - Tom Hiaz,  
 Disabled American Veterans - WI State Commander, Rob Hillard,  
 Fox Valley Veterans Council - Financial Officer, Barbara Miller-Strong,  
 Camp American Legion (CAL) - CAL Director, James Klement,  
 MOC NEW - Fred White Veterans Benefit Golf Outing Committee Chair, MG (ret) Dan Ammerman,  
 4<sup>th</sup> HOOAH WI - State Board of Directors VP, William Kocken,  
 Old Glory Flight - Executive Director, Diane MacDonald,  
 Sheboygan Veterans Treatment Court - Judge, Angela Sutkiewicz  
 MOC NEW - Chapter 104 President - LTC (ret) Jim Lienau

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## Board Member Vacancies

At the last Board of Directors meeting in January, President **Jim Lienau** announced that there are now three vacancies on the Board.

We need a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, a Treasurer and a Secretary. **John Cumicek** has been the Club Treasurer since the 1995-96 term. **John Friedel** has been on the Board in various roles since the 1998-99 term.

# State News

## WDVA Secretary Mary Kolar Retires

WDVA Secretary **Mary Kolar** retired effective on January 2, 2023. Over the last four years, Kolar dedicated herself to improve veteran benefits, services, and opportunities in Wisconsin.

She also chaired a special blue-ribbon commission created by Governor **Tony Evers** to develop programs addressing challenges facing veterans in the state, including increased support and resources for mental health, housing, and substance use disorders.

"Mary has been with us since Day One and has always been a fierce advocate for Wisconsin's more than 300,000 veterans," Evers said regarding her retirement. "As a veteran herself, we have valued Mary's insights and expertise to bolster supports and services to our nation's heroes and their families."

In an email to department staff, Kolar thanked all WDVA employees and said she plans to continue helping veterans.

"As my time as leader of this department comes to an end, please know that I am not saying 'Goodbye' but that I look forward to continuing to serve Wisconsin veterans and their families in different ways," said Kolar

Prior to joining Evers' cabinet, Kolar was on the Dane County Board of Supervisors and previously served in the Navy for 28 years retiring at the rank of Captain.

## Governor Evers appoints James Bond to lead WDVA

Governor **Tony Evers** announced the appointment of **James Bond** to be the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, effective January 9, 2023. His appointment fills the vacancy left by the retirement of former Secretary **Mary Kolar** earlier this month.

Secretary-designee Bond brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role as he has been with the department since 2010, most recently serving as Deputy Secretary, and previously as the Administrator of the Division of Benefits and Services.

"I am excited to work together to further the impact of veteran-focused initiatives and programs here in Wisconsin," says Bond. "I look forward to continue the great work with my colleagues at WDVA, our veteran service organizations, and local partners to ensure our veter-

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ans and their families voices are heard and needs are met."

## **WDVA Secretary-designee Bond Announces Leadership Team**

Secretary-designee James Bond announced today the leadership team of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.

"The newly appointed WDVA leadership team brings decades of experience alongside incredible talent and vision," said Secretary-designee Bond. "I am confident this team has the unique expertise and dedication to best serve Wisconsin's veterans and their families across 72 counties and 11 tribal nations."

**Christopher J. McElgunn** will serve as Deputy Secretary effective February 13, 2023. The Deputy Secretary is responsible for day-to-day operations, as well as directing and coordinating the Department's strategic planning and program development. Christopher is a Navy veteran with more than a decade of state civil service experience. He served on active duty in the United States Navy and as a member of the Naval Reserve from 1991 to 1999 with assignments at home and deployment abroad. He began at the state of Wisconsin in 2012 as a Senior Policy Analyst at the Department of Workforce Development. In 2014, he transitioned to an Executive Budget and Policy role at the Department of Administration where he guided budget and policy development for multiple state agencies, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Military Affairs, and Department of Health Services.

From 2017 to 2019, he served as Legal Counsel to the Board on Aging and Long Term Care. Currently, Christopher serves as an Assistant Attorney General with the Department of Justice in the Civil Litigation Unit and will continue in this role until February 13, 2023. Christopher received his Bachelor of Science degree from Northwestern University and his Juris Doctorate Degree from the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law. Christopher lives in Fitchburg with his wife, Megan, and their two sons, Max and Alex.

**Joseph Hoey** will serve as Assistant Deputy Secretary effective February 13, 2023. The Assistant Deputy Secretary is the primary contact for inter-governmental agency functions, as well as the agency's legislative liaison. Joseph began his service in Wisconsin State Government in 1993 when, shortly after moving to Madison to attend UW Law School, he worked as a part-time messenger in the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms office. Over the course of almost 30 years, Joseph worked for six different legislators representing the south side and northern suburbs of Milwaukee, Green Bay, Stevens Point, and the largest Senate District stretching from the south shore of Lake Superior to the rolling hills of Barron County and the forests of Price County.

Joseph most recently served as Chief of Staff for Senate Minority leader **Janet Bewley**. He is proud of the many relationships he forged and maintained working with legislators and staff on both sides of the aisle in the Senate and Assembly, as well as the administrations of five different Governors. He enjoyed working with outgoing Assistant Deputy Secretary **Kathy Still** and looks forward to continuing and building on the bipartisan relationships she established with the legislature.

**Brian Jones** will serve as the Division Administrator of the Division of Veterans Benefits, which administers an array of grants, benefits, programs, and services to all eligible state veterans, their families, survivors, and to many organizations that serve veterans. Bri-

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an served in the Department of Veterans Affairs from 2011 through 2018. His first position was as the Veterans Outreach Supervisor where he was responsible for leading a team of Agency Liaisons and Veterans Program Specialists in educating veterans on the benefits and services they had earned. He later transitioned to the role of Program Section Chief for WDVA and was instrumental in the development and implementation of WDVA initiatives such as the MyWisVets Portal and the Veterans Benefits Resource Center.

Prior to employment with the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, Brian served in and retired from the United States Army after more than 26 years of service. Brian also served 3 years with the U.S. Government Civil Service at the Milwaukee Army Recruiting Battalion. Brian lives in Brooklyn, WI. with his wife Michelle. They have two sons, two daughters, and eight grandchildren.

**Chad Kopljen** will continue to serve as Chief Legal Counsel, a position he has held since 2013. Chad previously served as the administrator/top prosecutor at the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and prior to that worked in the private sector focusing on business litigation.

He is a Veteran with 22 years of military service. He currently serves as command judge advocate for the 157th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (2nd tour), Wisconsin Army National Guard in its OCONUS mission. He previously served as the state deputy judge advocate overseeing legal operations for Wisconsin's covid and public security missions, to include the Democratic National Convention security task force in 2020. Chad has served as the command judge advocate in 64th Troop Command (2 tours) and as deputy command judge advocate for the historic 32nd Brigade. As a former active-duty enlisted Airman, he was assigned to the U.S. Air Force, 820th RED HORSE Squadron at Nellis AFB, NV.

Chad is a graduate of UW Oshkosh and received a post-graduate certification in Long-Term Care Administration from UW Madison. He earned his law degree from Marquette University Law School and holds advanced military degrees from the US Army Judge Advocate's Legal Center, Command and General Staff College, and the US Air Force War College. Chad and his wife Heidi reside in Waunakee. They have two daughters.

**Colleen Flaherty** will continue to serve as Communications Director. Colleen has more than a decade of communications, nonprofit, and legislative experience. After obtaining a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Minnesota, Mankato, she lived in New York and Washington D.C., working in various communications positions, including production assistant, copywriter, and education advocacy communications specialist. She returned to her home state of Wisconsin in 2015 where she worked for several legislative offices. Before joining the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs in March 2022, she worked as a communications specialist for the Department of Tourism while obtaining her master's degree in communications from UW Whitewater. Colleen lives in Monona with her husband, David, and their daughter, Elaine.

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# Department of Defense News

## DoD ID Card Changes

Retirees and military family members who have identification cards with no expiration date can choose to upgrade to the new Next Generation Uniform Services Identification, or USID, cards whenever it's convenient -- as long as it's done within the next four years, according to the Defense Department.

There is no looming deadline for use of those old non-active duty cards without expiration dates, but the department expects to completely phase out and replace them with the next-generation IDs, which are more durable and have enhanced security features, by 2026, **Maj. Charlie Dietz**, a spokesman, told Military.com.

In the meantime, cards with expiration dates are required to be replaced within 90 days of elapsing. The Defense Department began the effort to update all those IDs to the new format in July 2020, but the changeover hit delays caused by the pandemic. "DoD plans to phase out and cancel the existing card forms in 2026 when all existing cards with an actual expiration date will have expired," Dietz wrote in an email. "After then, only the USID card will be accepted for installation and benefits access."

The USID format for military retirees and dependents represents the first change to those identification cards in nearly 30 years; the last update was in 1993. The new design closely resembles the Common Access Card, or CAC, format issued to active-duty troops and department civilians.

But there was uncertainty among those with cards that list the expiration as indefinite. The IDs are needed to access military facilities and to confirm eligibility for various military benefits, so missing a deadline or losing the identification could disrupt cardholders' lives. Expired cards can be confiscated at base gates.

Those with cards with no expiration dates "may have the card replaced at their convenience," according to Dietz. The department recommends they go to the ID Card Office Online and use the office locator to find a site that issues the new cards and book an appointment.

Retirees and their dependents, dependents of active-duty troops, reserve members and Medal of Honor recipients are among those who will receive the USID cards.

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# Eternal Rest

**Major Philip R. Brehm, USAF**  
*Rest In Peace*

**Major Philip R. Brehm, USAF**, 90, Allouez, passed away peacefully at his home on Friday, January 20, 2023, surrounded by his family.

He was born on February 21, 1932 in Waukesha. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame, graduating cum laude, in 1954. Following his college graduation, Phil enlisted in the US Air Force, serving in the Korean Conflict as a Senior Flight Navigator. Phil married **Judith Clark** on June 22, 1963. He retired from the reserves as a Judge Advocate Major in 1974.

In 1958, Phil went back to school in Milwaukee at Marquette Law School, graduating in 1961. Upon graduation from law school, he began employment as an attorney at the Everson Law Firm, achieving partnership status in 1971. Phil remained at the firm, Everson, Whitney, Everson and Brehm, S.C., retiring in 2017 after practicing law for 56 years.

Phil was a leader in local and state bar associations, serving two terms on the board of governors. He was also active in numerous local and state affiliations. Phil believed in giving back to his community, and served on the NWTC Educational Foundation, St. Norbert College President's Advisory Council and the Greater Green Bay Area YMCA Board of Directors. He was passionate about creating educational opportunities for youth in Northeastern Wisconsin.

Phil enjoyed his time away from the office with Judy on travelling adventures to Ireland, Europe and taking cruises. He loved spending time with family and friends in Sister Bay, where many fond memories were made with Judy, and their children and grandchildren. He was so very proud of his family and their accomplishments. He loved to fish and take the family boating. He and Judy were active in the community, attending many fund raisers and local social events.

## Financial/Membership Report

### Financial Statement

Total Club Funds Balance (9/30/22) .....	\$24,845.41
Receipts.....	+\$7,878.81
Subtotal.....	\$32,724.22
Disbursements .....	(\$16,354.83)

Total Club Funds Balance (12/31/22) .....	\$16,369.39
Bank-Checkbook Balance (12/31/22) .....	\$14,841.54
Bank-Business Savings Acc't Balance (12/31/22) ....	\$1,527.85

### 2022 Quarter 4 Membership Report

MOAA Members.....	119
Honorary.....	5
Spouse.....	3
Non-MOAA Members.....	0
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>127</b>
Life .....	14
> 2 Yr. Overdue .....	12

## Dates of Interest

- **Mar 9 — Dinner Meeting**
- Mar 12 — Daylight Saving Time Begins
- Mar 29 — National Vietnam Veterans Day
- Apr 9 — Easter Sunday
- **Apr 27 — Board of Directors Meeting**
- May 14 — Mother's Day
- May 20 — Armed Forces Day
- May 29 — Memorial Day

# Christmas Dinner Pictures



# Christmas Dinner Pictures

