



COLUMBIA VOYAGER

<http://www.TriCitiesMOAA.org>

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Chapter Officers

President
Ron Weed
LtCol, USAF, Ret

1st Vice President
George Stotz
Capt, USA, Ret

2nd Vice President
Vacant

Secretary
Bob Allen
Maj, USAF, Ret

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Paul Seipt
LTCOL, USMC, Ret

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Richard Ciccone
LTC, USA, Ret

Richard Evanoff
LtCDR, USN, Ret

Matt Boehnke
LTC, USA, Ret

Past President
Mark Hanneman
Capt, USAF, Ret

Extra Duties
High School ROTC
Ron Weed

Legislative Liaison
Matt Boehnke

Recruiting
Pat Kenny

Auxiliary Liaison
Richard Misener

Chapter Update

We have been inactive for over a year; I thought it was time for an update on some changes that have happened.

George Sanders resigned as chapter president so he can deal with a family health crisis. Ron Weed, first VP moved up to president, and George Stotz, second VP is now first VP. The second VP position is now vacant.

We will remain inactive until our area opens up. In the past we have not had meetings in July and August, so it will probably be September at the earliest that we start up again.

From the President

[This is an edited version of an essay written by Ron Weed]

Morale, MOAA and Covid19

MOAA members have lived through a year of separation from each other due to Covid restraints and restrictions; we could easily lose our morale; morale might easily slide downward for us over such long solitary times; so what are uplifting words gained from our past military background?

U.S. Army Field Manual 22-100 calls morale “the human dimension’s most important intangible element” and “a measure of how people feel about themselves, their team, and their leaders.”

A Marine stationed at an old pistol factory in Iraq, 1st Lt. Dave

Lewis, defined morale with squared-away bluntness: “It’s all attitude.”

Whatever the nuances of their definitions, military minds and troops agree that high morale leads to valor. Many also say morale is influenced by the conviction that a cause is important, and in a democracy, the certainty that folks back home support it. Additionally, they say that these factors, more so than new CDs or celebrity visits, are the true determiners of morale.

“It’s easier to identify the opposite of morale than to identify what it is,” Steven Aftergood, senior research analyst with the Federation of American Scientists’ Military Analysis Network, said from Washington, D.C. “The opposite is cynicism. If you have cynicism, you don’t have morale.”

He said success depends on a cocktail of faith in mission, optimism, camaraderie and confidence in commanders.

We keep ourselves together in heart and head for each other as military officers until we meet again; so can we maintain our group solidarity until we meet again in September?

In conclusion, morale is influenced by the conviction that a cause is important; and it is! And in a democracy, we have the certainty that the American public supports us and our MOAA.