



Wichita Chapter News

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



May 2022

President's Corner:

Dear Chapter Members: Summer is almost here. And we are approaching the end of another successful year in the MOAA Wichita Chapter. This is my last President's Corner of my tenure as Chapter President. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving you as President and look forward to being an active part of the chapter for many years. We faced some unique challenges over the last two years due to COVID. I am proud that we were the only chapter in Kansas to continue to hold monthly meetings during the fall and winter of 2020. Sometimes we only had 20 people in attendance, but we came together and continued our monthly episodes of fine food and fellowship. We were not going to let COVID destroy the strength of our chapter. As a result, I believe that we are a stronger chapter today than before COVID.

I want to thank all the chapter members who played leadership roles in the chapter for the last two years. I believe that we have the most vibrant and dedicated group of leaders of any chapter in Kansas. I have the deepest respect for all of you and truly honor your contributions to the success of our chapter. Without all of you working together as a team, our chapter would not exist.

But we are facing new challenges as we move forward. Presently, no one in the chapter has stepped up to serve as President for the next leadership period. The President is the glue of the organization, and I am fearful that without a dedicated President, the chapter will slowly fray and fall apart. I know that the chapter is important to all of you. I humbly ask you to spend some time this summer considering serving as President of the chapter.

Our next brunch is Sunday, May 29th. I recommend that you arrive between 11:00 AM and 11:30 AM so that you can have time to eat before the program. Due to our regularly scheduled installation of officers, we will not have a guest speaker. However, if any of you know of a guest speaker who you would like to see speak, please let Greg Willingham or Sue Bush know and we can add them to the itinerary. The brunch cost is \$22.00, and I encourage you to write a check due to our shortage of cash for change. Remember that any first time visitor to our chapter brunches who is eligible to join our chapter will receive a free meal along with a spouse. West High School will serve as the Color Guard. See you on the 29th.

Sincerely, John Hughey, LTC, (Ret), USA, President

TROW News and Information

TROW President Sue Bush said there will be a luncheon May 20 at 11:30 a.m. at the Crestview Country Club. New officers will be voted on and installed at the meeting . Callers will contact members for reservations.

Derby AFJROTC Cadets Participate in Several Metro Area Events.

Col. Michael Dillard, AFJROTC at Derby High School, reported the school's cadets participated in many civic events during the past 2 months. During the month of April, 10 cadets volunteered at Wineteer Elementary School Family Night. Cadets helped the students navigate the science and math stations provided by Exploration Place. Three cadets also volunteered at the Reality U-Day at Derby HS. Reality U is a program where all 9th graders participate in a simulated life after high school. On April 9, 17 cadets volunteered at Century II where they assisted with the Society of Women Engineers Expo.

Also, 11 cadets volunteered at Derby Hills Elementary School Dragon Dash. Cadets staffed stations and dunking booths to raise funds for the school. On April 12, 13 Cadets volunteered at the Derby HS Open House. The cadets were tour guides for parents and students. The next day, 6 members of the Saber Team participated in the Derby HS National Honor Society induction ceremony. Cadets also visited McConnell AFB where they received demonstrations and briefings from the working dogs Mobility Sections and the armory. The cadets ate in the Dining facility, compliments of Army Recruiters. And five members of the Color Guard presented colors at the Kansas Association of School Business Annual Conference. Their last event in April involved during the WST Tech/National Center for Aviation Training.

During May 6, seven members of the AFJROTC Saber Team participated in the Project Search Graduation. Project Search is a partnership program with Derby Public Schools and McConnell AFB. Special needs graduates participate in an intern program to learn employment skills. Also that day, 18 cadets volunteered at Wineteer Elementary School field Day. Cadets set up sports stations and motivated the students to successfully compete. And 7 cadets volunteered to help supervise the Derby Middle School 5th grade dance. The dance is an initial welcome to the middle school. On May 8, 15 cadets participated in the Derby High School Graduation. The color guard presented the colors and escorted the Senior class to their seats.

Col. Dillard also noted that Cadet Colonel Jennifer Chhim has accepted an Appointment to the U.S .Merchant Marine Academy. The Academy trains midshipmen to serve as officers in the Merchant Marine and other branches of the U.S. armed forces, and in the Department of Transportation.

The SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination: Phase Two is Here

During 2022 – Phase Two of the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and the Survivor Benefit Plan began. The changes affect surviving spouses who are, or who will become in the future, eligible for both SBP and DIC payments, and who were previously subject to a full or partial SBP-DIC Offset.

In Phase Two of the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination the amount that is offset (deducted) from the spouse's SBP annuity payment is one-third of the amount of the DIC payment.

DIC payments will not be affected.

The SBP monthly payment will be reduced by the amount of the offset (1/3 of the amount of the DIC payment).

If a spouse's gross SBP benefit is less than one-third of the amount of the DIC they receive from the VA, the spouse will not receive an SBP payment. About 12 percent of spouses (approximately 7,600) will not see a change in their SBP payment in 2022 because their gross SBP benefit is less than one-third of their DIC payment from the VA.

Spouses who have their SBP offset by DIC will continue to receive the Special Survivors Indemnity Allowance (SSIA), up to the maximum amount of \$346 per month for 2022, or up to gross amount of SBP (if the gross amount of SBP is less than \$346).

VA will pay 100% of the DIC payment. DoD/DFAS will pay the remainder of the SBP benefit, after deducting an amount equal to 1/3 of the spouse's DIC payment from the SBP gross annuity amount (SBP gross – 1/3 of DIC = SBP net) Plus the appropriate amount of SSIA up to the maximum allowable (\$346).

The effective date of Phase Two is January 1, 2022. January 2022 benefits were paid on February 1, 2022. The last payment of Phase Two is for December of 2022, which will be paid on January 3, 2023.

Phase Three: Starting January 1, 2023 – First Payment is February 1, 2023

In the third and final phase that begins January 1, 2023, there will be NO offset deducted from SBP payments. The SBP-DIC offset will be fully eliminated as of January 1, 2023.

That means spouses will begin to receive their full SBP monthly payments with no offset (reduction) on February 1, 2023.

DIC payments will not be affected.

The SBP benefit will be paid in full (no offset).

SSIA will NOT be paid.

Additional Notes

Spouses should also have received a January 2022 Annuitant Account Statement (AAS) near the time of their February 1, 2022, payment that will show changes to the SBP and/or SSIA payment because of the second phase of the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination.

Annuitant Account Statements are available in their myPay accounts:

Reminder: if a spouse previously received a refund of SBP premiums paid due to the SBP-DIC offset, they will NOT need to pay back that refund because of this change in the law.

Check out the full range of Frequently Asked Questions on the SBP-DIC News webpage: <https://www.dfas.mil/sbpdicnews>. For further information, contact LTC Roy Yenchesky, the Surviving Spouse Coordinator for our MOAA Chapter.

Chapter Officers for 2021 – 2022

PRESIDENT	LTC John Hughey
1 st VICE PRESIDENT	LTC Greg Willingham
2 nd VICE PRESIDENT	(Presently vacant)
SECRETARY	Maj Earl Shellner
TREASURER	Maj Shellie Harmon
PAST PRESIDENT/LEGISLATIVE LIAISON	Lt Col Michael George
DIRECTOR/McCONNELL AFB LIAISON	Col Michael Dillard
DIRECTOR/SURVIVING SPOUSE COORDINATOR	LTC Roy Yenchesky
DIRECTOR	MAJ Andy Trager