



Cape Cod Currents



Cape Cod Chapter Military Officers Association of America

**October 2022 Event – “FBI-Led Task Force Captures Terrorist” presented by
FBI Supervisory Special Agent Brian LeBlanc,**

leader, Domestic Terrorism & Threat Response Squad, Boston Joint Terrorism Task Force

Tuesday 11 October 2022 – 1130 registration; meal 1200

Location: DiParma Italian Table, 175 Route 28, West Yarmouth MA 02673

entrée picks – baked haddock w seasoned bread crumbs or chicken piccata w lemon caper sauce
salad or chowder; vegetable; cheese cake with strawberries; beverages; rolls/butter; bar service

Cost: \$34.00/person by 04 Oct 2022 to Sheldon Segerman – see page 6



JULY 2022 EVENT – WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING & OPPORTUNITIES IN THE 2020s

Our program presenter was **David Crary, Jr.** He brought us an audio/visual program taken largely from his own experiences as the recently retired Fire Management Officer of the Cape Cod National Seashore. The focus was on how controlled burns help prevent the wildfires which can devastate forested lands and cause great loss of life, both human and animal, destroy structures, and totally reshape landscapes and ecosystems. The roles that scientific studies and careful experimentation play in developing strategies to preclude fire-related disasters were emphasized in the presentation. There was also much detail about the typical routines a fire crew, perhaps traveling far across the country to respond to a blaze, would follow - including long bus rides in rickety vehicles to reach remote staging areas. After that the repetitive theme was walk, walk, walk. Dave described the training needed to reach the skill and stamina levels demanded of those who attack fires in a frontal assault. He also explained how burning areas are mapped in grids which give managers the ability to report the level of containment of a particular wildfire. And there were some tales of fires fought - and miles walked in those efforts. Interesting to locals were the mention of Cape areas where he had supervised prescribed burns including Crane Wildlife Management Area. Dave is eager to know of any person interested in a possible career in the field of fire management, as the need is only going to grow. Wildfires are becoming more frequent, ever larger, and more destructive as the climate changes.

OCTOBER 2022 EVENT – FBI-LED TASK FORCE CAPTURES TERRORIST

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's **Joint Terrorism Task Forces**, or JTTFs, are our nation's front line of defense against terrorism, both international and domestic. They are groups of highly trained, locally based, passionately committed investigators, analysts, linguists, and other specialists from dozens of U.S. law enforcement and intelligence agencies. When it comes to investigating terrorism, they do it all: chase down leads, gather evidence, make arrests, provide security for special events, collect and share intelligence, and respond to threats and incidents at a moment's notice. JTTFs serve as a national resource and create familiarity among investigators and managers before a crisis by conducting frequent training to maintain the specialized skills of investigators, analysts, and crisis response teams. JTTFs pool talents, skills, and knowledge from across the law enforcement and intelligence communities into a single team that responds together. The first JTTF was established in New York City in 1980. Today there are about 200 task forces around the country, including at least one in each of the FBI's 56 field offices supervising groups in over 104 cities, with hundreds of participating state, local, and federal agencies. Since 2001 there have been 71 new JTTFs created around the nation. [From FBI.gov accessed 08-26-22]

Our **event presenter**, **Supervisory Special Agent Brian LeBlanc**, leader, Domestic Terrorism & Threat Response Squad, Boston Joint Terrorism Task Force, will recount a case involving Edward McLarnon, a so-called Sovereign Citizen and Malden MA resident, who concocted a plot to acquire weapons he would use to assassinate his ex-wife's husband, as well as a Boston federal judge, and a former Massachusetts Attorney General. (This case was featured in season 1, episode 6 of the CBS TV documentary series "The FBI Declassified" on 21 Aug 21 as "The Enemy of the State," and on the Investigation Discovery TV series "Body Cam.") The FBI defines sovereign citizens as U.S. citizens who claim to have special knowledge or heritage rendering them immune from government authority and laws. While this ideology is not illegal, sovereign citizen extremists sometimes express their



principles through physical force or violence; sovereign citizens can also use their belief system to justify nonviolent fraud or theft.

Since joining the FBI in 2007, Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) LeBlanc has specialized in complex counterterrorism investigations, as well as in the mitigation of terrorism threats as a weapons of mass destruction (WMD) specialist and bomb technician. He has led counterterrorism investigations domestically and internationally throughout South America, the Caribbean, and Africa. He has also served as the FBI counterterrorism specialist assigned to U.S. Special Operations Command (SOC) in Afghanistan, as well as in a long-term assignment to the FBI Legal Attaché Office at the U.S. Embassy, Nairobi, Kenya. Prior to his FBI career, LeBlanc served seven years as a municipal police officer and six years in the U.S. Marine Corps, ending as a Sergeant. He holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Massachusetts, and a Graduate Certificate in Terrorism Analysis from the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism at the University of Maryland. A native of Massachusetts' North Shore, he graduated from Beverly High School. He resides north of Boston. Outside of work SSA LeBlanc enjoys hiking, camping, and overlanding around New England in his overbuilt Toyota Tacoma pickup.

IN MEMORIAM Chapter member since 2019 Lt Col **Jeffrey C Paul** USAF (ret), born 11 Jul 1944, died unexpectedly 24 Jul 2022. He grew up in Brockton MA, where, as a youth, he was a great help to his grandfather, the owner of Lawson Coal and Oil. He worked his way through college, graduating from Northeastern University in 1967. His Air Force pilot wings were awarded at Vance Air Force Base OK in 1969. He flew the EC-47 electronic reconnaissance aircraft out of Tan Son Knut Air Base, Vietnam, from November 1969 to November 1970. His awards in that period included the Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross. In February 1971 he married Eileen Mary Budny. His assignment to C-141 cargo planes at McGuire Air Force Base NJ took him to all parts of the world, including Antarctica. In March 1976 he was assigned to the Presidential Squadron at Andrews Air Force Base MD. As the very loving father of Adam, Nicholas, and Craig, his years at Andrews were happy. Retiring from the Air Force in 1988, he went on to become the Director of Aviation for Sun Oil Company, Philadelphia PA. During this time his grandchildren Geoffrey, Ethan, Graeme, Chloe, Brendan, and Grant were born. Having grown up in Massachusetts he was very happy to retire to Cape Cod where he volunteered with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. He is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, daughter in-laws Michelle, Erika, and Bradie, as well as sister-in-law Mary Ann Suddarth, and many wonderful nieces, nephews, grand nieces, and grand nephews. Our hearts have been left with a terrible void, missing our wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother-in-law and uncle. A Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated 01 Aug 22 at the Roman Catholic Church of the Transfiguration, Tarrytown NY. Interment with military honors followed at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Sleepy Hollow NY. The family has requested memorials go to the Eye & Ear Foundation, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, www.eyeeandear.org. [Compiled from information provided by Mrs. Eileen Paul and Dwyer & Michael's Funeral Home, Tarrytown NY. Jeff Paul served in the USCG Auxiliary with Chapter members Pat McNamara and Don Lynde. The photo was taken at NAS Pensacola FL.]



OFFICERS MEETINGS Zoom assemblies are Wed. 14 Sep, 1015, and Wed. 12 Oct, same

time. **Contact Secretary Chuck Sands**, cerssands@comcast.net, for a meeting link via email.

2023 ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE. PLEASE USE THE FORM.

Charity + Scholarship Goal by 31 Mar 23: \$10K / Receipts - 31 Aug 22: \$2,781.44 / 27.8%

Fund balances 31 Aug 22: Charity \$ 681.63 Scholarship \$ 2,456.38 Operating \$ 5,232.71

ATTEND We need more people at events. As food and related charges increase, the more that gather, the more costs spread among those present, helping to keep prices down. There were 25 at the July event. We have had from 19 to 35 present at other 2022 gatherings. We would like 40.

PUBLIC This newsletter goes to many who are not Chapter members. To all who receive this document, remember that all Chapter events are open to the public. Simply submit a registration form with payment as noted. If there is a question before registering, please contact the editor.

JOIN Chapter members are, first, current members of MOAA national; see MOAA.org. MOAA includes active, Guard, Reserve members of the eight uniformed services, retirees of them, or former officers of them. The Chapter web site, capecodmoaa.angelfire.com, has applications plus more information, copies of past newsletters, and event photos. No dues charged new applicants.

CAPE COD CHAPTER, MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
2023 ANNUAL DUES FORM - PAYMENT DUE BY 01 JANUARY 2023

Use of this form helps the Chapter keep track of members. Often its submission reveals changes of street and email addresses, phone numbers, and other necessary information.

2023 ANNUAL DUES - \$25.00. PLEASE INCLUDE THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT.

Only regular members pay, not Surviving Spouse, Honorary, or (Chapter) Life.

Name _____
last [please print legibly] first m.i. rank service component
(Component means indicate affiliation in regular, Reserve, or Nat'l. Guard)

circle status: active, retired, former officer, deceased officer's spouse

Addr _____
nmbr street/box apt city/town state zip + 4

Phone _____
home mobile spouse's given name

Other addr _____
nmbr street/box apt city/town state zip + 4

Dates at other addr _____ Phone at other addr _____

Email addr (if used regularly) _____

Dates (e.g. 1980-90) of active duty _____ of inactive/Reserve/Guard _____
include all extended periods of each - do not include as active any Reserve/Guard ACDUTRA,
TEM DU, TDY, TAD, ADT periods of less than 1 year

DUE NLT 01 JAN 23 - make checks to Cape Cod Chapter, MOAA

Mail to CCC MOAA, PO Box 2272, Mashpee MA 02649-8272.

Signature _____ Date _____ check # _____

form 07-26-22

BUSINESS Monthly and annual financial reports are available by request to Treasurer Lee Clark. Secretary Chuck Sands will supply minutes of Board meetings if asked.

WILDFIRE ON CAPE COD For those who can access the internet, here is a link to an article about the possibility of a wildfire on Cape Cod. It quotes Dave Crary, Jr., our July event presenter, extensively. <https://sethrolbein.substack.com/p/fire>.

Advocacy: FY 2023 NDAA Provision Would Halt Planned Military Medical Staffing Cuts

[by Karen Ruedisueli 08-23-22, MOAA Director of Government Relations for Health Affairs]

The House version of the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) includes a provision halting medical billet cuts for three years, but MOAA needs your help ensuring the final bill includes this critical protection for your access to care.

[Action: [Ask Your Senators to Support Halting Cuts to Military Medicine](#)]

The House NDAA also includes increased DoD reporting and congressional oversight regarding military medicine, particularly related to military medical operational readiness. Medical billet cuts have been a top advocacy priority for MOAA since they were first revealed in the FY 2020 administration budget request; for the last three NDAA cycles, we have worked tirelessly to achieve multiple delays in implementation together with enhanced DoD reporting and congressional oversight.

The bill also addresses concerns about the effects of the cuts on readiness – concerns reinvigorated in May when Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff GEN Mark Milley USA, told a House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee hearing that billet reductions could pose a risk to battlefield medicine. MOAA amplified that message, together with concerns about beneficiary access to care, in meetings with House and Senate Armed Services Committee staff and member offices throughout the spring and summer. MOAA members further underscored these messages by highlighting civilian medical system capacity constraints and dire predictions about the health care workforce during Advocacy in Action 2022, our signature spring advocacy event.

We were pleased the House Armed Services Committee responded with three provisions in its mark of the FY 2023 NDAA designed to enhance congressional oversight of military medical downsizing and military treatment facility (MTF) restructuring:

- **Section 721** includes a congressional notification requirement to modify the scope of services provided at MTFs, together with a 180-day delay following notification.
- **Section 745** extends the time allowed for the Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on medical billet cuts required by the FY 2022 NDAA.
- Most significantly, **Section 780** halts medical billet cuts for three years and requires extensive DoD reporting on military medical manning related to operational requirements, including the National Defense Strategy, the National Military Strategy, campaign plans of the combatant commands, theater strategies, and global patient movement.

Please join MOAA's effort by urging your senators to support Section 780 as the FY 2023 NDAA moves toward conference, where House and Senate version differences will be resolved.

Internet Access at Low Cost or Free for Those Who Qualify [from Social Security 08-26-22]

Do you perhaps know a low-income family with need for internet service?

Internet access is necessary for work, school, healthcare, and more. Unfortunately, high speed internet remains unaffordable for too many households. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) runs a program, the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), that reduces the cost of getting online for people with limited income. Many internet providers offer fully covered internet plans – meaning you may even get high-speed internet for free.

If your household income is 200% or less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines or someone in your household participates in certain government assistance programs, you may be eligible for the benefits the ACP provides. Visit the [ACP website](https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/) to see if you qualify. (Don't contact Social Security with questions about the ACP.) <https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/>

You can take advantage of the discounts with confidence knowing that receiving ACP assistance does not affect your Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability benefits.

What discounts are available?

- \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households. Some companies offer internet service for \$30, making internet service free.
- \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.
- Eligible households also can receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 toward purchasing a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers.

How do you get the discounts?

You can apply online with the FCC, by directly contacting your current internet service provider, or by mail: ACP Support Center, PO Box 7081, London KY 40742.

CCC MOAA Scholarship and Charity Fund contribution Chapter members and any others who would like to make a federal tax deductible donation to either our Charity or Scholarship Fund may do so by providing the requested information and mailing a check or money order.

The Chapter thanks you very much for your generosity.

I/we, _____, contribute to the CCC MOAA
[please print name(s) legibly]

Scholarship Fund the amount of \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ Other \$ _____ ☐

Charity Fund the amount of \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ Other \$ _____ ☐

Make instruments payable to CCC MOAA with a "memo" indicating the fund name.

Mail to CCC MOAA, PO Box 2272, Mashpee MA 02649-8272.

Signature _____ Date _____ check # _____

Reservation – 11 Oct 22 Event: “FBI-Led Task Force Captures Terrorist” by SSA LeBlanc
1130 – DiParma Italian Table, 175 Route 28, West Yarmouth MA 02673

Name _____ fish ☐ chicken ☐

Guest _____ fish ☐ chicken ☐

Guest _____ fish ☐ chicken ☐

Guest _____ fish ☐ chicken ☐

Cost: **\$34.00** per person – checks to CCC MOAA – **responses** due not later than **04 Oct 2022**
check # _____ date _____ in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed

Mail to CPT Sheldon B Segerman USA, PO Box 198, Yarmouth Port MA 02675-0198

email – marshaven@comcast.net mobile – 508.776.2198 deadline day phone-ins accepted if necessary

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