



# COLUMBIA VOYAGER

<http://www.TriCitiesMOAA.org>

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## January 2012

### New Year kickoff at the Country Gentleman

We will start the new year with a meeting at one of our favorites, the Country Gentleman. We have always had great meals there; the menu this month looks like another winner.

We are turning to one of our own for the program. Ron Weed will delve into military history and give a talk about "The Pursuit of Pancho Villa and the First Use of American Air Power." The Pancho Villa Expedition—officially known in the United States as the Mexican Expedition and sometimes called the Punitive Expedition—was a military operation conducted by the United States Army against the paramilitary forces of Mexican insurgent Francisco "Pancho" Villa from 1916 to 1917 during the Mexican Revolution. The expedition was launched in retaliation for Villa's attack on the town of Columbus, New Mexico, and was the most remembered event of the Border War. The expedition had one objective, to capture Villa dead or alive and put a stop to any future forays by his paramilitary forces on American soil. This was the first time an American tactical air unit was used in combat, a JN3, or Jenny supported the action. Army aviation was part of the Signal Corps then.

The meeting will be on a different day than usual. Because of scheduling problems, we will meet on **Wednesday, January 25**. That's

the 4th Wednesday, not the 3rd Tuesday. Reservation to Bob Allen by **Friday, January 20**.

### Dues

Membership dues for 2012 are \$15. Bring your dues to the January meeting or send your check made out to "Lewis & Clark Chapter," to:

Paul Seipt  
232 Somerset Street  
Richland WA 99354-1964

### 2012 National Defense Authorization Act

The American Forces Press Service reports that the 2012 National Defense Authorization Act, signed by President Obama on Dec 31, limits annual TRICARE enrollment fee increases for retirees and their family members to an amount equal to the percentage by which retired pay increases that year. (Editor's note: Given the pressure on the government to control deficit spending, we should consider this a temporary reprieve.)

Other items in the Act of interest:

The act contains critical initiatives to develop counterterrorism initiatives abroad, build the security capacity of key partners, modernize the force and boost the efficiency and effectiveness of military operations worldwide.

DOD is required to finance an independent assessment of overseas troop basing, advising retention, closure, realignment or establish-

### Chapter Officers

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Former Capt, USMC

1st Vice President  
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Capt, USN, Ret

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ment of U.S. military facilities outside the United States “in light of potential fiscal constraints on [DOD] and emerging national security requirements in coming years.”

The chief of the National Guard Bureau is added to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and will have responsibility for “addressing matters involving non-federalized National Guard forces in support of homeland defense and civil support missions.

Mental health assessment requirements are set for service mem-

bers deployed for contingency operations. The assessments are intended to “identify post-traumatic stress disorder, suicidal tendencies, and other behavioral health conditions ... in order to determine which such members are in need of additional care and treatment for such health conditions.” Assessments are not required for service members “not subjected or exposed to operational risk factors during

deployment in the contingency operation concerned.”

DOD “has the capability, and upon direction by the president may conduct offensive operations in cyberspace to defend our nation, allies and interests,” subject to the law of armed conflict and the War Powers Resolution.

President Barack Obama acknowledges “serious reservations” about parts of the act, particularly provisions that regulate the detention, interrogation, and prosecution of suspected terrorists.

Lewis and Clark Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
106 Hills West Way  
Richland WA 99352-9446

Country Gentleman  
9221 W. Clearwater Kennewick,

Social hour at 6:30  
Dinner at 7:00  
\$30.00 per person

***A reservation made  
is a reservation paid.***

## ***January Meeting***

**Wednesday, January 25**

Reservations by  
**Friday, January 20**

Bob Allen  
627-6226  
moaa.tricities@charter.net

### ***Menu***

Stuffed Chicken Breast  
Tri-Tip w/Demi Glace  
Scalloped Potatoes  
Seasonal vegetables  
Strawberry Spinach  
Greek Pasta  
Rolls and butter  
Chocolate mousse  
No-host Bar Service