

The SHAPE Officers' Association



What's the SHAPE Officers' Association?

The SHAPE Officers' Association (SOA) was established in 1961 and has recently held its 55th annual Symposium and General Assembly here at SHAPE. The SOA counts some 480 members from across all NATO nations and its current President is General John A. Shaud, USAF (Ret), a former Chief-of-Staff SHAPE.

Throughout the years, the three main goals of the SOA have been and continue to be: to foster friendships among officers (and civilian staff of equivalent rank) currently serving at SHAPE and those who have served at SHAPE by providing them a forum to meet and share experiences; to keep members informed about SHAPE and the military situation in NATO; and to enable members to support and propagate the mission and the objectives of SHAPE and, more generally, the Alliance – in short, to perpetuate the traditions of SHAPE.

SOA activities include sponsored events, both professional and casual in nature. One highlight of the SOA activities is the annual Symposium held in October that brings SOA members from throughout the Alliance back to SHAPE for academic and social events.

A second highlight is the annual award of scholarships to distinguished high school graduates. Since 2012, when the SOA scholarship program was launched, eight highly gifted young people were awarded an SOA scholarship.

What can SOA do for you?

If you are just arriving at SHAPE, SOA membership can help you become acquainted with your surroundings, with staff members and with issues you will be working with.

During your stay, membership will allow you to attend SOA sponsored events and to make lasting friendships among SOA members.

If you are about to leave SHAPE and you are not yet a member, SOA membership will help you to stay in touch with SHAPE and former SHAPE and NATO colleagues, and informed about developments and issues affecting SHAPE and the Alliance.

Where can you learn more about the SOA?

Website:

<http://www.aco.nato.int/shapeofficersassociation.aspx>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SHAPE.OA.US>

Email: shapeoa@gmail.com

Communications-Division Liaison :

LTC Walczak, Bldg 102, Room 249,

Ext: **6292**

How do you join the SOA?

If you would like to join the SHAPE Officers' Association, please complete an Application for Membership Form (see SOA website). The SOA offers you free membership for the first year as it sees itself as an extension of SHAPE and wants everyone to feel connected to SHAPE.