**SOA Newsletter**

**December 2022**

Dear SOA Members,

Apologies for the delay in keeping you informed about SOA Activities in Belgium.

As you know, the COVID restrictions have prevented many organizations and associations from conducting their activities in a normal fashion. Fortunately, most of the restrictions and limitations have eased.

So far this year we were able to have a very interesting bus journey through the Belgian countryside followed by a wine and cheese tasting event and our annual delicious Porchetta meal at the SHAPE Chalet.

As a result, the SOA ExCom has begun preparing for future activities.

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| Chairman  | Marin Natchev | MG (ret.) |
| Co-Chairman & NMR and US Chapter Liaison | John Haas | COL (ret.) |
| Treasurer | Véronique Leroy | NATO Civilian (ret.) |
| Assistant Treasurer & Web Content Manager | Jean Vanderwal | NATO Civilian (ret.) |
| Secretary & Publications Manager | Jack Smits | NATO Civilian (ret.) |
| Scholarships Coordinator | Benoît Davin | COL (ret.) |
| Membership Database Manager | Raymond Healy | COL (ret.) |

Plans for 2022 and 2023

1. The SOA Flyer will be updated with our new Honorary President, SACEUR General Christopher Cavoli.
2. The SOA Website will be updated with changes that have occurred within our liaison in the SHAPE Communications Division.
3. We will not require membership dues until further notice.
4. Since school attendance has returned to normal, we will restart the SOA Scholarship Program and be seeking donations to match the SOA funds that will be allocated to the Scholarship Fund. We will seek applications from qualified students with the possibility of a 2022 Scholarship Award and certainly a 2023 Award.
5. We are planning a New Year social gathering in the Mons Room at the SHAPE Club.
6. Following tradition, we will have a Candlemas Celebration at the Chalet in February.
7. Other social activities are being planned for the Spring and Summer months. Membership will be advised when the events are confirmed.
8. If further health, security, and travels restrictions do not occur, we will plan for a 2023 SOA Symposium in the September/October time.