

OFFICERS CALL

ST. PETERSBURG AREA CHAPTER,

Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 7054 St. Petersburg, FL 33734



VOL. VI No. II ★★★★★ Five Star Chapter: 2000, 2002-06 ★★★★★ February 2008
Print Media Winner 2006; Also, 2003 Won: Print & Electronic Media & Web Site!!

President's Message

Lt Col Larry N. Fernald, USAF (Ret)
Thanks.....and Why MOAA?

First, thank you for electing me as the St. Petersburg Area Chapter President. I bear the weight of your confidence on one shoulder and your support on the other. With both, I know we can continue the growth of the Chapter begun by Don Freese.



And speaking of Don, we all owe him a "Well Done" for the tremendous job he has done for the last two years. I am grateful to have been able to work with Don and to learn from him. I look forward to his continued involvement in Chapter activities. And, I greatly value his ideas and support.

Like many of you, when I retired from the military, I went to work in the civilian sector, and time, especially free time, was at a premium. And, I suspect, like many of you, I did not get involved in MOAA and its activities—or any other organization, for that matter. Then, when I retired from my second career, I began to look around for things to do. After all, the "honey-do" jar did not hold an infinite amount of chores. Inevitably, I would have free time on my hands. And, as we all know, free time (or at least too much of it) is wasted time, especially when it comes to maintaining a good state of mental health and agility.

So, I began an in-depth search of various organizations that I thought I might be interested in, including, in many cases, organizations that I was already a member of. Probably, like many of you, I joined this or that organization to lend my name and dollars, because someone somewhere over the years had told me it would be "a good thing to do." For instance, when I got my Air Force Pilot Wings in 1970, one of my instructors told me that I should join the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), because they help the cause of aviation. And, today, I am still a member of AOPA. But, while AOPA is a good organization, it was not what I was looking for.

Back to my search: The one organization that I found that appealed to more than just a somewhat small and specific group

President's, continued Pg 6

Howard Troxler

St. Petersburg Times Columnist

Howard Troxler will be our speaker at the February 15, 2008 Membership Meeting.

Howard's columns appear Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday in the Times Metro and Tampa sections writing a mix of reporting and satire on state and local matters. He considers himself politically unpredictable. His readers routinely conclude that he is biased against whatever they are "for." He will talk to us about the "modern relationship between the media (whatever that means) and the military." It should be very interesting since we are all "for" the military.



He will talk to us about the "modern relationship between the media (whatever that means) and the military." It should be very interesting since we are all "for" the military.

E-mail Howard Troxler: troxblog@tampabay.com, he also has a blog, TroxBlog, for column updates, fresh commentary and reader reaction.

Chapter Panama Canal Cruise, October 19 - November 3, 2008:- Kay Judge from MOAA Vacations and Charla Smith from Celebrity Cruise Line will be attending the February 15 meeting. They will make a presentation to promote the Panama Canal cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to San Diego that was selected as a result of the survey taken last year. They will also have a display & sign up table up starting at 11 AM to answer your questions. This will be a great trip as well as fund raiser as MOAA Vacations will make a donation to the Scholarship



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Fund for every cabin booked. Sign up now to get the best cabins at the best prices.

Panama Canal





Officers Call

Print media winner-2006

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- Assistant Editor – CWO4 Don Simmons, USN .. 521-2080
- Reporter/Photos – CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG . 821-7365

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- President- Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF 522-6237
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- 2nd VP- LTC Janice Mogan, USA 381-3997
- Secretary- Mrs. D Kay Benson, AuxMbr-AF 895-5116
- Treasurer- Maj Pete Dawson, USAF 894-3761

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- Col Stew Palmer, USAF 343-5022
- COL HB Love, USA 347-3730

2008 & 2009 —

- COL Ron Merritt, USA 397-9809
- LTC Terry Carr, USA 392-6524
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- CAPT Don Freese, USN 360-3102

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 - Vet Liaison LtCol Fred Edwards, USMC 360-2936
 - Visitation LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN 545-3884
- AND** Life Members Emeritus **AND** Past Presidents

Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 315
 Regular Members - 230
 Auxillary Members - 85

Military Services:

Army - 82 USMC -13
 USAF - 76 USCG - 8
 Navy - 50 NOAA - 1

The Buzz

Chapter Happenings and Items of Interest

Col Al Neville, USAF (Ret)

727 522-5685 or www.nevil45@tampabay.rr.com.

• **H.O.T Needs Volunteer:** Roger Shields reports that Carolyn notified Larry (President Larry Fernald) and Maj Gen Earl Peck that she is no longer able to be responsible for HOT. Carolyn will train her successor on the procedures as soon as Larry identifies a volunteer successor.



President Larry Fernald will have more to say about this situation in next month's *Officers Call*.

• **Fred Edwards undergoes radiation and chemotherapy:** Fred was not able to have his knee replaced November 29 because an undiscovered renal cancer had metastasized to the femur of his other leg. Since then he has had a rod inserted in that bone, has received radiation, and is taking chemotherapy for the source cancer and other bone lesions. Fred and Pauline were at the Installation Dinner, January 19, 2008 (with photo of Pauline and Fred)



• **George Brown has more knee surgery:** George is recovering from additional knee surgery – 1/18/08

• Extract from AFA President's Letter to AFA members:

Here are some revealing data on the "State of the Air Force."

Fighter aircraft - average age: 20 years; average flight hours 5400+
 Bomber aircraft - average age: 32 years; average flight hours 11,400+
 Tanker aircraft - average age: 44 years; average flight hours 18,900+
 C2 Fleet - average age: 22 years old; average flight hours 32,000
 ISR Fleet (excluding UAV) - average age: 30 years old; average flight hours 18,000

Key Groundings/Restrictions

F-15A-D - 163 of 441 are grounded for structural issues
 B-52 - 6 are grounded - past due PDM grounding date - authorized a one-time flight to the bone-yard.
 EC-130 - 2 of 14 are grounded due to center wing box cracks
 C-130E - 3 are grounded and 13 are restricted due to Service life and wing cracks
 KC-135Es - 26 of 86 are grounded due to engine strut corrosion.
 AC-130U - 4 of 17 are restricted due to lack of 30MM weapons
 B-2 - entire fleet is restricted due to windshield bolt hole cracks
 C-5s - 39 of 108 are restricted due to crown skin restrictions (weight limiting)

• **USN Warrant Officer Pilots:** USN Puts NCOs in Pilots Seats January 5, 2008: The U.S. Navy awarded wings to its first two non-officer pilots in over sixty years. Faced with a growing shortage of pilots, the U.S. Navy has finally adopted a solution the U.S. Army implemented long

The Buzz, continued Pg 6



Visit our Chapter Web Site =>





Left to Right: Bill Eisenhart, Anita Harrow, Ron Merritt, Terry Carr, HB Love, Stew Palmer, Pete Dawson, D.Kay Benson, Janice Mogan, Ed Lillich, Larry Fernald — See Page 2 for position, rank & phone number.

Installation Dinner; 19 January 2008

Reported by **Basil Burrell**

Everyone got into their attitude adjustment and the crowd began to grow at the official starting time. All the ladies were resplendent in their evening outfits and many of the men were in tuxedos and uniforms and wearing their miniature medals. Everyone was having a good time and the cash bar certainly was busy. Janice Mogan decided to come as a blonde. Enough said about that. In fact, Maj Gen Earl Peck had to rap the podium several times to get everybody to take their seats so that he could get started with his Master of Ceremonies duties. In the absence of our regular Chaplain due to illness, MajGen Peck called on Maj Ed Lillich to deliver the invocation. The Admiral Farragut Color Guard presented the Colors and Maj Gen Peck led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag and Country. He then introduced the distinguished head table. They included Maj Gen Peck and his lovely wife Margaret, COL Jerry Bowen, who is to be the Installing Officer, and his wife Connie, CAPT Don Freese and Sherry, Dr. Lynda Davis, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy, LtCol Larry Fernald and Barbara, and finally from our neighbor Clearwater Chapter of MOAA, CDR Victor Wood and his wife Beryl.



A special introduction was made of a special member, LtCol Fred Edwards USMC(Ret) who is a National Board member and also Chair of the Chapters and Councils Committee. Fred rose and acknowledged the applause he received.

Maj Gen Peck then moved on to introduce the Chapters Distinguished Members, and Life Members Emeritus. Those whose efforts and work for the Chapter have earned their designation as Distinguished members are: CAPT Bob Eynatten USN(Ret), CAPT Don Freese USN(Ret) and as Life Member Emeritus COL Roger Shields USA(Ret). A special award for Exceptionally Distinguished Service 2007 goes to Mrs Carolyn Shields for her work in setting up and running the Help Our Troops or HOT program. Way to go Carolyn!

After a very nice dinner was served by the Treasure Island Tennis and Yacht Club staff, the Installation Ceremony for our 2008 Officers and Directors started with the introduction of

Attended – 101: 104 reservations, 3 No-shows, 6 guests, 95 members, wives & non-chapter members.

COL Jerry Bowen USA(Ret) . COL Bowen is a member of MOAA 's National Board of Directors and traveled here from his home in Arkansas to fill in for our Chapter member LtCol Fred Edwards USMC(Ret) who is under the weather temporarily. Prior the the Installation ceremony, COL Bowen spoke about VADM Ryan's Give-Me-Ten program and how successful it has been in reversing the downward trend in MOAA membership. Our membership numbers have actually increased since the inception of the Give-Me-Ten program. He thanked the St. Petersburg Area Chapter for recruiting 37 GMT members in 2006 and 2007 among the 75 members that we recruited for our Chapter. We received a check for \$310.00 for 2006 and will be receiving a check for \$340.00 this February for our efforts. The program will continue this year, so "Give-Me-Ten new members! COL Bowen then proceeded to install our 2008 Officers and Board Members. Their names are listed elsewhere in this issue of Officers Call.

Our outgoing President CAPT Don Freese USN(Ret) said a few words and then gave our new President LtCol Larry Fernald USAF(Ret) the opportunity to speak.

After the Installation Ceremony, MajGen Peck introduced Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (DASN) for Military Personnel, Dr Linda Davis. Dr Davis is originally from Dunedin and her mother still resides in this area. Dr Davis spoke about her involvement with the care of our "Wounded Warriors" and their families. She is responsible for the Navy and Marine Corps personnel and was appointed by the Secretary of Defense to the committee charged with investigating what went wrong at Walter Reed and other facilities for all military personnel and their families. She reported that the great majority are getting excellent care but there were problems with substandard outpatient care and rehabilitation facilities. Those problems have been corrected. The information system that is being used to track Wounded Warriors and all 27 million VA patients is being updated and going all digital and wireless so that when problems do occur they can be corrected quickly without the delay associated with paper work. Dr. Davis received a standing ovation for her presentation and work for our veterans.

This being the end of our Installation Ceremony, MAJ Ed Lillich USA(Ret) gave the Benediction . **Basil**





Our greeters, House Chair Bob Eynatten & Maggie



Outgoing President Don Freese & banquet cake



Chaplin for the evening, incoming 1st VP Ed Lillich



Pres. Larry Fernald, Master of Ceremonies Earl Peck



Roger Shields is awarded Life Member Emeritus designation from Honors Chairman, Earl Peck



Carolyn Shields is awarded for "Exceptionally Distinguished Service for 2007" by Earl Peck



The Honorable Dr. Lynda Davis, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Military Personnel Policies



President Larry Fernald thanks Dr. Lynda Davis for her outstanding presentation





Jerry and Connie Bowen



Beryl and Victor Woods



Sherry and Don Freese



Pat and Stew Palmer



Janice Mogan, her date Richard Phares,
Roger Shields, Ed Spears



Paulette and Terry Carr



New member Carol and Dick Hoover



New member Eleanor and Don Simmons



The Buzz, from Pg 2

ago; warrant officer pilots. The first fourteen navy warrant officer pilots were commissioned a year ago and sent off to flight school.

- **Admiral Farragut Academy Honor Guard:** Admiral Farragut Academy Honor Guard cadets presented the flag at the installation dinner on January 19th. CAPT Tom McClelland USN (Ret), a member of MOAA National, and the Professor of Military Science, brought the team consisting of: Cadets Joseph Ankerberg, Drew Quinn, Donald Thomas and Chris Licata.

- **VA COLA INCREASE:** Veterans and eligible family members will see their disability compensation, pension, and survivors' benefits increased as the VA provides an annual cost-of-living increase for key benefits. A recent law provides a 2.3 percent increase in disability compensation and survivors' benefits starting in January 2008 checks. Additional details can be found at www.va.gov or call (800) 827-1000.

- **FY-08 Bill Passes House (Again):** House re-passed the FY2008 Defense Authorization Act on January 16, ending worries that the President's post-Christmas veto might spark political fights and further delay its passage.

- **MOAA Outlines GI Bill Goals at Hill Hearing:** At one of the first hearings of the New Year, MOAA testified on its priorities for improving educational benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill including a recommendation to permit officers commissioned from ROTC scholarships and the service academies to enroll.

- **President Bush OKs Emergency VA Spending:** In the normal budget process, the President asks Congress for money. In the topsy-turvy world of emergency appropriations, the process is reversed.

- **WEP/GAO Opponents Testify before Congress:** A House hearing highlighted Social Security inequities faced by many teachers, state and local employees, and older federal civilians and their survivors - a group that includes many military retirees, spouses, and survivors.

- **Prayer for Our Military Men & Women:** (Don Freese used as his benediction after the December Membership Meeting, 12/14/07. Many members asked Don for a copy.)

Oh Dear Lord
 Please keep them safe ...
 Protect and shield them with Your love ...
 Guide them safely through their days and nights ...
 Let them know that they are loved in so many ways ...
 Ride on their wing and be their strength ...
 Please be their ray of light in the blackness of the night ...
 Lighten the load on their shoulders ... Carry their burden ...
 Fill their minds with peace ... their hearts with love ...
 Let them know they have been blessed by You above ...
 Oh, and one more thing Lord, if I may ...
 Please assign them each their own special guardian angel ...
 to be at their side ...
 to bring them back safely home to all of us ...
 from www.freepublic.com, modified slightly by Don Freese

President's, from Pg 1

was MOAA. MOAA was—and remains—solidly behind a strong defense for America and behind the folks who man the front lines of that defense, both now and in the past—two very important things in today's terrorist environment.

The more I looked at MOAA, the more I liked it. It was somewhat like the military, in that it required all involved to do his or her part, whether it be leading a Chapter, or taking minutes for various meetings, or just attending meetings and lending support in whatever way was needed to grow the Chapter and, thus, MOAA itself.

And, therein also lies the fundamental difference between MOAA and the military. The military receives its direction from the top down, while MOAA receives its direction from the bottom up. Your voice, combined with the voices of all MOAA members, provides the direction for MOAA. And, as you know, the more voices the better.

The logical extension of this is that the various branches within the Headquarters, and not the soldiers, fight the battles. When has any HQ done the fighting? Perhaps on a few rare occasions, but not on a day-to-day basis as happens at MOAA HQ. MOAA takes the direction provided by the soldiers through the Board of Directors, and does the fighting for us.

MOAA today is the third largest military advocacy group with nearly 360,000 members. With that kind of clout, when MOAA speaks, folks listen. (To see—and participate—in the issues that MOAA is active in, please visit the Chapter website at <http://www.MOAAStPeteArea.com> and click on the link on the Home Page or visit the MOAA website at <http://www.MOAA.org>.)

So, here I am in MOAA, and I am challenging you to help me grow the Chapter. I cannot do it alone; I need and value your assistance. If you have friends who are eligible to join, bring them to a meeting and encourage them to join. If you have an idea for a speaker or an idea for a meeting, please let one of us know. Or, if you have ideas on how we can increase our membership, please let us know. Or, better yet, work with us to implement your idea(s) or those of someone else.

We started 2008 with 312 members. Let's end the year with 340 or more.

Next month, I will address one of the best bargains around—your dues—and one of the best programs around, HOT.



Ed Spears





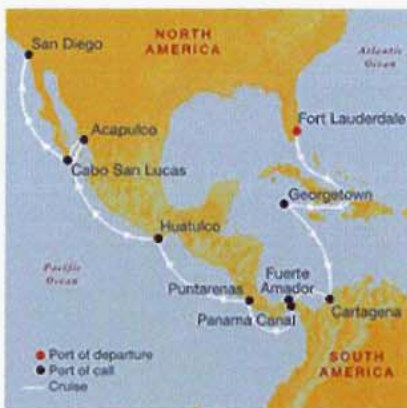
14-Night Westbound Panama Canal Cruise Ft. Lauderdale to San Diego

Aboard the Celebrity Infinity

October 19, 2008

Day	Location	Arrive	Depart
1	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	-	5:00pm
2	At Sea	-	-
3	George Town, Grand Cayman	8:00am	5:00pm
4	At Sea	-	-
5	Cartagena, Colombia	7:00am	2:00pm
6	Panama Canal (Cruising) Fuerte Amador, Panama *	6:00am 8:00pm	6:00pm 9:00pm
7	At Sea	-	-
8	Puntarenas, Costa Rica	7:00am	7:00pm
9	At Sea	-	-
10	Huatulco, Mexico	12:00pm	6:00pm
11	Acapulco, Mexico	8:00am	6:00pm
12	At Sea	-	-
13	Cabo San Lucas, Mexico	8:00am	4:00pm
14	At Sea	-	-
15	San Diego, CA	7:00am	-

* Picking up guests from Gatun Lake tour



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Ship Facts

Occupancy: 2046
 Tonnage: 91,000
 Length: 965 ft
 Beam: 105 ft
 Draught: 26 ft
 Cruising 24 kts
 Speed:
 Inaugural Mar 03,
 Date: 2001

Unique Features



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The Conservatory

Perched high above the sea, the Conservatory is a flourishing, breathtaking garden featuring the exclusive collection of world-renowned floral designer, Emilio Robba.



Words

Highlight your travels with a novel from words, our expansive library.



SS. United States Restaurant

Tantalizing cuisine served in a most exquisite setting. Reminiscent of transatlantic ocean liners of the past, the SS United States Restaurant will whisk you back in time.



Aquaspa®

Relax in our impressive AquaSpa and let us transport you to a whole new world with treatments inspired by rituals from exotic cultures. Discover a state of complete tranquility in the Persian Garden or spoil yourself with a host of indulgences in the most luxurious spa afloat.





Mary Davis, Lynda Davis' mother



DASN Dr. Lynda Davis



Ed and Angeline Diedo



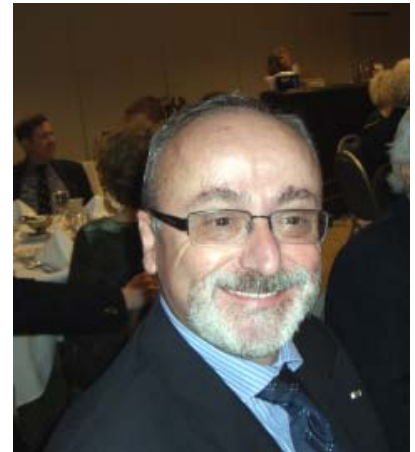
Marie Lorence and Fred Edwards



Brent Gudmundson



Mike Vision



Italian BG Giuseppe Santonartino



Eleanor Burrell, Anita Harrow, Dolly Couture



Probable members, Moureen and Ed Connors





Executive Committee Meeting St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA; 7 January 2008

Reported by **D. Kay Benson, Secretary**

The meeting was called to order by President Don Freese, at 11:30. Larry Fernald introduced new member Don Simmons who served with Fred Edwards in Africa many years ago. Ed Lillich gave the Invocation. Don led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Eighteen (18) members were in attendance: D.Kay Benson, Basil Burrell, Pete Dawson, Bob Eynatten, Larry Fernald, Paul Finley, Don Freese, Brent Gudmundson, Ed Lillich, Marie Lorence, H.B. Love, Hazel McGrath, Janice Mogan, Al Neville, Stew Palmer, Roger Shields, Vi Smith and new member Don Simmons. Minutes of December 3, 2007 meeting were approved as printed in the Officers Call. Don expressed his thanks to the Board for all their efforts in making this a great chapter.

Larry reported that the 2007 Finance Audit isn't complete yet, but looks good so far. Pete gave the Treasurer's report and it was approved as reported. Pete, Larry, Ed and Don will meet to change signatures on bank account and to check over the 2007 actual v. 2007 budget and 2008 budget.

President Report: All is in place for our installation dinner January 19th at the Treasure Island Yacht Club. Ed volunteered to be the chaplain replacing George Brown who is having knee surgery again. Some discussion about the budget for this event.

We will be sending Donor acknowledgement letters. Don discussed the 2007 Florida Council Report. He appointed the following to file for Chapter Awards: Al for the Officers' Call, Larry for the website & MMC and Larry and himself for the 5 Star Award. Give Me Ten will continue for 2008. We recruited in 2007 32 new members, of which were 19 new GMT members including 5 new life members.

Larry gave an update on the website noting adjustments in the colors and title page. He discussed the statistics of how many are viewing our website. He asked each of us to read the Policy Manual on the website and discussed the various items that needed to be approved at the next meeting. The MOAA convention will be held May 2nd – 4th at Patrick AFB. See Website for details. Larry moved and it was seconded by Vi that inactive status be handled by the Board. Motion passed. Don Simmons will transition with Al to will take over as OC editor. Larry moved that we purchase a Page Maker program for Don. Ed seconded and it was passed. There is a need for a secretary for June through Oct as D.Kay will be out of town. Anyone interested or know of anyone please contact Larry. Perkins is not available for our March Board meeting. Discussion on several options – Larry will ask Perkins if March 10th is available. Stew Palmer requested that the website be listed in the OC.



Janice thanked the Board for their contribution to the Coast Guard Band concert to be held January 31st at Ruth Eckerd Hall. She invited us to attend the George Washington event at her church Feb. 21st.

Al discussed the membership renewal status and the inactive list. There will be a meeting with Don S., Basil, Larry and Don F. after this meeting. There was another round of applause for all the time and effort Al has put into the OC.

Roger requested a round of applause for the hard work Don has done for our chapter. All applauded. Roger also reported on the HOT project. We need another contact in Afghanistan. We are sending one box a month to our members Matt Poage and Marc Freese. Janice and Rose will help pack while Anita and the "Hotties" will continue to write thank you notes to the troops.

Stew expressed concern over the letter from National MOAA re: Scholarship Fund. They will need a monthly report of those who have contributed. MOAA Scholarship Fund was rated the best in America because 100% of the monies collected is given in scholarships. He requested that this rating be posted in the OC.

Ed told of two events for the JROTC: they will be the color guard at our installation dinner and January 25th there will be an All Pinellas County Drill Meet. Ed will help present the trophies that we have donated.

Vi will attend the next MacDill Hospital Meeting January 22nd and the February Council Workshop. She requested that spouses write how they meet their Military spouse to the Aux. committee. Hazel reported on the sick list. Good news: Jeannie Hawkins is off the list. She reported that Bill Eisenhart and Sherry Freese are helping with the Obituaries. Hazel requested monies to help cover the cost of attended the VA Volunteer Convention in Orlando. Larry moved to pay all of Hazel's expenses. Vi seconded. After discussion the motion was amended to not exceed \$500. Amendment seconded by Al was passed. A round of applause was held for Hazels many years of service. Larry thanked Basil for checking the mailbox during the dues renewal process.

At 1300 Ed said the Benediction and the meeting adjourned.



Stanley Young, Elinor Miller, Don Freese





TAPS

LTC **Harry Botts**, USA (Ret) 01/20/08 (Age 95)
8480 75th Ave, N, Largo, FL 33777

. Harry was an active member for many years and a regular luncheon attendee. He last appeared in 2000 Directory. (Reported by Pete Dawson)



Welcome our new members!

CWO4 **Donald B. Simmons**, USN (Ret) Eleanor
1041 Live Oak Ave NE, St Petersburg, FL 33703
727 521-2080, ELDONSIM@verizon.net

December 2007

(as of 12/20/2007)

Income:

Dues	\$650.00
Boosters	\$135.00
Luncheon	\$1,658.00
Ads	\$0.00
Misc income	\$0.00
Total income:	\$2,443.00

Expenses:

Banquet Masters	\$1,440.00
Newsletter printing	\$285.00
Supplies	\$111.01
Post Office	\$108.60
VA/JROTC	\$100.00
Other organizations	\$100.00
Nonrecurring	\$250.00 entertainer
Memorials to Sch Fund	\$0.00
Total expenses:	\$2,394.61

Operations cash flow: \$48.39

Scholarship Fund

Sent to MOAA \$6,045.00
Balance Dec 31 \$0.00

HOT

Dec 1 balance \$2,568.80
Donations \$430.00
50/50 \$0.00
Expended \$779.50
Dec 31 balance \$2,217.30

Operating funds balance \$5,433.98

Pete Dawson, Major (Retired) USAF
Treasurer

February Birthdays

(36 to 90 years)

Day	L Name	F Name	Rank	SVC
14	Alpert, Florence		Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
29	Barnum, Ralph		CDR	USN (Ret)
05	Berns, Robert		Col	USMC (Ret)
07	Carter, Nelson		WO3	USN (Ret)
15	Darling, John		LTC	USA (Ret)
02	Fernald, Laurance		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
24	Fratangelo, Paul		MajGen	USMC (Ret)
23	Freese, Marc		Maj	USMC (Res)
04	Funsch, Richard		CAPT	USCG (Ret)
18	Garnhart, George		LTC	USA (Ret)
01	Glynn, Mel		CWO3	USA (Ret)
02	Henderson, Michael		CDR	NOAA (Ret)
06	Jessup, John		COL	USA (Ret)
05	Kisbany, Sari		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
26	Knab, Douglas		CAPT	USN (Ret)
03	MacFarlane, Neil		LT	USN (Frm)
13	Matkovich, Ludwig		LTC	USA (Ret)
07	Moore, Frances		Mrs.	AuxMbr
23	Mortensen, Marilyn		Mrs.	AuxMbr-N
10	O'Toole, Charles		CAPT	USN (Ret)
25	Shine, John		Col	USMC (Ret)
19	Sipole, Eva		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
19	Steinhilber, Marion		LTC	USA (Ret)
20	Tondreau, Herbert		CWO4	USA (Ret)
17	Tugman, Elsa		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
14	Vallario, Rudolph		LTC	USA (Ret)

Sick List

Your cards, prayers and thoughts are welcome.
(Contact **LCDR Hazel McGrath**, 545-3884)

- * **COL George Brown**, USA (Ret)
Page 19, 2007 Directory
- * **LtCol Fred Edwards**, USMC (Ret)
Page 23, 2007 Directory
- * **CWO4 Robert E. Hodgen**, USAF (Ret)
Page 28, 2007 Directory
- * **Mrs. Betty Hodgen**, Spouse
Page 28, 2007 Directory
- * **CDR Alda P. Haley**, USNR (Ret)
Page 27, 2007 Directory
- * **LTC Richard H. Natzke**, USA (Ret)
Page 36, 2007 Directory
- * **MAJ Mike Tomasulo**, USA (Ret)
Page 43, 2007 Directory Page 36, 2007 Directory
- * **Col Rod Bricker**, USAF (Ret)
Page 18, 2007 Directory





D.Kay Benson and her friend, Harry Psenisky

2007 Scholarship Fund Donors (Includes donations to National MOAA)

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Gudmundson, Brent LTC
Neville, Al Col

Nelson, Tony LTC
Polk, Clif, May
Simmons, Don CWO4

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••**Bronze** –
Brink, Charles LtCdr

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Hodgen, Rober CWO4
Neville, Al Col

Weatherby, Shirley Lt Col

•• **SILVER** –
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Secor, Madeline Mrs.
Shine, Jack Col

••**Bronze** –
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Landers, Joan Mrs.
McGrath, Hazel LCDR
Shields, Roger COL

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January 2006

Turning the page on older voters

Extracted from an article by David M. Shribman (Pittsburg Post-Gazette), Opinions in The St. Petersburg Times, 21 Jan. 2008

An early paragraph has the thrust of the article -

"The median age of voters in the 08 presidential election will be about 44, according to figures derived from the Census Bureau findings. That means the electoral sweet spot in the campaign is voters born in 1964, the year Nikita Khrushchev disappeared from sight in the Soviet Union, three civil rights workers were murdered in Mississippi, and Henry Mancini and Johnny Mercer's *The Days of Wine and Roses* was the record of the year."

Another paragraph towards the end-

"Older voters remember the bitter, long struggle year in and year out with Soviet Communism. The younger voters at the center of our politics remember the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Soviet Block."

SBP/DIC Offset Change

MOAA has been working diligently for years to increase the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) from 35 to 55 percent. It has taken too long but the final phase in will occur this year.

MOAA has also been working, but so far unsuccessfully, to eliminate the SBP/DIC offset that reduces a survivor's contracted SBP \$ for \$ for Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) received.

MOAA needs your help to correct this wrong that causes many young survivors with children to go back to work to make "ends meet" and older survivors to scrape for money to live on. Millions were given to 911 survivors but so far the survivors of our gallant men and women disabled and killed fighting for us have their contracted SBP pay reduced by their won DIC pay. This is not right!

Please contact Violet Smith, 727-595-5543, alexgrammie@juno.com, if you are a recipient of SBP/DIC with your story. Maybe, together with your help, our "One Powerful Voice" can get this wrong corrected this year?



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Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• Reservations by Wednesday February 13th

Your name: _____.

Each reservation \$11:

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507 Plaza Seville Ct, # 16
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**For late reservations &/or a RIDE,
call either:**

CAPT Bob Eynatten 360-4637

or

CAPT Don Freese 360-3102

Luncheon Meetings The 3rd Friday — mixer
11:00 - 11:45 luncheon; program 11:45 - 13:15;
BanquetMasters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Pk.

Business Meetings are on the 1st Monday of the
month 11:30-12:30 at Perkins Restaurant on the NE
corner of Starkey Rd. & Park Blvd., Seminole.

CALENDAR

February 15th, Friday, 11:00 Howard Troxler, Columist
St. Petersburg Times and MOAA Vacations

March 14th, 2nd Friday, 11:00 Derenda Summerlin, VA
Pines Volunteer Service Director.

April 18th, Friday, 11:00 TBD

May 16th, 2nd Friday, 11:00 CDR Todd Prestidge, C.O.
USCGC Resolute

June 20th, Friday, 11:00 TBA

July 18th, Friday, 11:00 TBA

February 4th Monday

March 3rd Monday

April 7th Monday

May 5th Monday

June 2nd Monday

July 7th Monday

ROWC

Luncheon – (2nd Tuesday) 11:30, lunch 12:30

- Reservations: LTC Rose Munchbach 397-4146
- Membership: Martha Willis 579-4116.

Bridge – (1st Wednesday of the month) 10:00 AM
Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park.

- Reservations: Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272, or
Margaret Peck 525-1688

**** Need a ride to the luncheon?**

Call: CAPT Bob Eynatten 360-4637

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