



OFFICERS CALL

ST. PETERSBURG AREA CHAPTER,
Military Officers Association of America
P. O Box 7054, St. Petersburg, FL 33734



VOL IX No. VI ★★★★★ Five Star Chapter:2000, 2002-08 ★★★★★ June 2010
Print Media Winner 2006; Also, 2003 Won: Print & Electronic Media & Web Site!!

President's Comments:

I have an American Flag flying in front of my house at the top of a 20 foot flag pole. Are you flying your Flag? You will find it to be a source of pride and honor to fly the American Flag in front of your home or from your balcony. It will show your feelings for this great Country. In my daily walks through the neighborhood I have noted the absence of our Flag.



Are my neighbors taking our great country for granted? I know that you have celebrated the Flag and that you love and respect it but there are others who don't hold it in the same regard.

It is more than a piece of cloth or a pretty display designed to sell cars or insurance. People from nations around the world respect it and respect us. As a people Americans wear their hearts on their sleeves and rush to help wherever and whenever needed. We have been called the policemen of the World. We are the first to provide assistance, civil or military. We give and give until our Nation itself comes to peril. Our Red, White and Blue Standard leads us in all of our undertakings.

In 1974 Johnnie Cash wrote a poem he entitled "That Ragged Old Flag." He wrote:

I walked through a county courthouse square
On a park bench, an old man was sittin' there.

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I said, "Your old court house is kinda run down,
He said, "Naw, it'll do for our little town".
I said, "Your old flag pole is leaned a little bit,
And that's a ragged old flag you got hangin' on it".
He said, "Have a seat", and I sat down,
"Is this the first time you've been to our little town"
I said, "I think it is"
He said "I don't like to brag, but we're kinda proud of
That Ragged Old Flag

"You see, we got a little hole in that flag there,
When Washington took it across the Delaware.
and It got powder burned the night Francis Scott Key sat
watching it,
writing "Say Can You See"
It got a rip in New Orleans, with Packingham & Jackson
tugging at its seams.
and It almost fell at the Alamo
beside the Texas flag,
But she waved on though.
She got cut with a sword at Chancellorsville,
And she got cut again at Shiloh Hill.
There was Robert E. Lee and Beauregard and Bragg,
And the south wind blew hard on
That Ragged Old Flag

"On Flanders Field in World War I,
She got a big hole from a Bertha Gun,
She turned blood red in World War II
She hung limp, and low, a time or two,
She was in Korea, Vietnam, She went where she was sent
by her Uncle Sam.

She waved from our ships upon the briny foam
and now they've about quit wavin' back here at home
in her own good land here She's been abused,
She's been burned, dishonored, denied an' refused,
And the government for which she stands
Has been scandalized throughout out the land.
And she's getting thread bare, and she's wearin' thin,
But she's in good shape, for the shape she's in.
Cause she's been through the fire before
and i believe she can take a whole lot more.

"So we raise her up every morning
And we bring her down slow every night,

See President, Pg 3



Officers Call

Print Media Winner- 2006

Print Media 1st Runner-Up - 2008



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- Editor – CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG 393-4160
- Reporter/Photos – CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG 821-7365

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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President- MAJ Ed Lillich, USA (Ret) 546-2246
 1st VP- LTC Terry Carr, USA (Ret) 392-6524
 2nd VP- LTJG Larry Butterfield, USN (Fmr) 289-8559
 Secretary- Mrs. Chris Lillich Spouse-A 546-2246
 Treasurer- Maj Pete Dawson, USAF (Ret) 894-3761

EXECUTIVE ADVISORY BOARD

2010 —

CDR Bill Bolin, USN (Ret) 584-1595
 CDR Maureen Conners, USN (Ret) 347-7976
 Mrs. Barbara Walters, AuxMbr-A 595-4619

2010 & 2011 —

Col Bill Lofgren, USAF (Ret) 528-3946
 1LT Hazel Murphy, USANC (Fmr) 347-5195
 Mrs. Johnnie Neville, AuxMbr-AF 522-5685

Immediate Past President

Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF (Ret) 522-6237

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 Auxiliary Liaison Mrs Anita Harrow, AuxMbr-N .. 367-9050
 Awards Maj Gen Earl Peck, USAF 525-1688
 Bylaws/Policy Bk LtCol Fred Edwards, USMC 360-2936
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 Chaplain Ass't Capt Charlene Sanders USAF 894-6050
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 TOPS COL Ron Merritt, USA 367-9809
 VA Vol Svc LT Ed Conners, USN 347-7976
 Vet Liaison MAJ Ed Lillich, USA 546-2246
 Visitation LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN 545-3884

Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 301
 Regular Members - 213
 Auxiliary Members - 88
 Inactive Members - 8

Military Services:

Army - 69 USMC - 15
 USAF - 73 USCG - 7
 Navy - 49 NOAA - 0

5/19/2010

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

CALENDAR

June 18th MAJ Michael Alvis, USAR

July 16th

August 20th

September 17th Congressman Bill Young—

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

Call: CDR Bill Bolin 584-1595 or
MAJ Ed Lillich 546-2246

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.

June 7th Monday

July 5th Monday

August 2nd Monday

September 7th Tuesday

ROWC

Luncheons:

- January thru May—Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd
- Luncheon Reservations: Bobbie Walters, 595-4619, or Evelyn Hamilton, 399-1272

Bridge: (1st Wednesday of the month) 10:00 AM

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park.

- Reservations or Information: Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272

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HOT PROJECT NEW MEMBERS OF THE HOT TEAM

Reported by Anita J. Harrow, Chairperson

The number of military troops served by our HOT project continues to grow. With all the troop deployments from one location to another, the units we serve change monthly; as a result, the work required for a successful project increases. In an effort to distribute the work load to more chapter members, I outlined for the auxiliary members in attendance at our Spring Coffee the essential tasks required each month for the efficient operation of our HOT project. Everyone volunteered to serve in some capacity. So now not only do we have members who contribute money and items monthly, we also have a full compliment of HOT workers.

The HOT project tasks include; gathering, sorting, and shopping for supplies for the boxes, obtaining boxes, tape, and forms, writing monthly messages to our troops, making boxes and completing forms, packing boxes and completing records, and transporting boxes to the post office.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the new HOT Ladies and HOT Men!

- Gatherers and Shoppers: Chris Lillich, Pauline Edwards, Bill Lofgren, Bill Bolin
- Scribes for the forms: Johnnie Neville, Joan Landers, Chris Lillich
- Packers: Sherry Freese, Jacqueline D’Louhy, Hazel Murphy, Pauline Edwards, Violet Smith
- Box Transporter: Larry Fernald, Bill Lofgren

What a great chapter, when something needs to be done there are always members ready to serve. I guess that is what makes SPA-MOAA a Five Star Chapter.

President from Pg 1

We don’t let her touch the ground,
And we fold her up right.
On second thought
I *do* like to brag
Cause I’m mighty proud of
That Ragged Old Flag”

June 14, 2010 is Flag Day, I encourage you to display the flag whenever and wherever it is appropriate to do so.

The History Of Flag Day

The Fourth of July was traditionally celebrated as America’s birthday, but the idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885. BJ Cigrand, a schoolteacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, District 6, to observe June 14 (the 108th

anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as ‘Flag Birthday’. In numerous magazines and newspaper articles and public addresses over the following years, Cigrand continued to enthusiastically advocate the observance of June 14 as ‘Flag Birthday’, or ‘Flag Day’.

On June 14, 1889, George Balch, a kindergarten teacher in New York City, planned appropriate ceremonies for the children of his school, and his idea of observing Flag Day was later adopted by the State Board of Education of New York. On June 14, 1891, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration, and on June 14 of the following year, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution, celebrated Flag Day.

Following the suggestion of Colonel J Granville Leach (at the time historian of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution), the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America on April 25, 1893 adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the Flag on June 14th. Leach went on to recommend that thereafter the day be known as ‘Flag Day’, and on that day, school children be assembled for appropriate exercises, with each child being given a small Flag.

Two weeks later on May 8th, the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution unanimously endorsed the action of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames. As a result of the resolution, Dr. Edward Brooks, then Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia, directed that Flag Day exercises be held on June 14, 1893 in Independence Square. School children were assembled, each carrying a small Flag, and patriotic songs were sung and addresses delivered.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings. With BJ Cigrand and Leroy Van Horn as the moving spirits, the Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized for the purpose of promoting the holding of Flag Day exercises. On June 14th, 1894, under the auspices of this association, the first general public school children’s celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating.

Adults, too, participated in patriotic programs. Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, delivered a 1914 Flag Day address in which he repeated words he said the flag had spoken to him that morning: “I am what you make me; nothing more. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself.”

Inspired by these three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day - the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 - was officially *established* by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30th, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson’s proclamation, it was not until August 3rd, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating **June 14th** of each year as **National Flag Day**.





Executive Committee Meeting St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA; 3 May 2010

The meeting was called to order at 1125 hours by President Ed Lillich. Charlene Sanders gave the invocation and Ed Lillich led the Pledge of Allegiance. Nineteen members were present including Bill Bolin, Terry Carr, Ed Connors, Maureen Connors, Pete Dawson, Fred Edwards, Larry Fernald, Don Freese, Anita Harrow, Chris Lillich, Ed Lillich, Bill Lofgren, Hazel McGrath, Hazel Murphy, Johnnie Neville, Jim Patton, Earl Peck, Charlene Sanders and Violet Smith.



A motion was made by Fred Edwards, seconded by Terry Carr, that minutes be approved as printed in the Officers Call. The Treasurer's report was presented by Pete Dawson and motion to accept was made by Earl Peck, seconded by Larry Fernald. Motions passed. Complete treasurer's report is found elsewhere in the O.C.

First Vice President: Terry Carr reported that Congressman Bill Young will be the speaker for the September 17th luncheon. The POW-MIA ceremony will also take place at this luncheon. Other speaker suggestions were given to Terry by Larry Fernald and Ed Lillich and Terry will follow up.

Help Our Troops (HOT): Anita Harrow reported that thirty two boxes were sent out in April. The expense was less in April because Bill Bolin picked up many treats and toiletries from our source in Wesley Chapel. Anita asked that we find another person to help with the program, particularly to go with Bill Bolin when he picks up items at Wesley Chapel. To have someone else trained would be very helpful should Bill not be able to get to Wesley Chapel to pick up the items. It was the concurrence of the board that we find someone else to help Bill and Anita with the program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Visitation: Hazel McGrath made phone calls to some of the older members who have not been able to attend the luncheons and also has sent get well cards out.

VA Volunteer Service: Ed Connors is coordinating with Derenda McCook at the VA to get some activities going such as a picnic in the park, a barbeque, a trip to the Military Museum or other museums. Ed will look into getting funds and transportation to facilitate these activities. Volunteers are always welcome at the VA to help push wheelchairs or whatever other help would be needed. A motion was made by Johnnie Neville, seconded by Larry Fernald to donate \$100 to the Volunteer Department of the VA to support the summer help program. After discussion the motion was tabled by the board until we researched this request further. Larry Fernald proposed that an

internet vote be taken for immediate action once we have all the information.

Scholarship Program: Hazel Murphy received a thank you letter from Shelley Marshall, Development Director of The Scholarship Fund.

Don Freese said there is a sentence in the membership renewal letter encouraging members to make their yearly donation to the Chapter for the scholarship fund.

Awards: Earl Peck said that all criteria for awards is found in the policy book and he stressed the significance of the awards. He said that the Exceptionally Distinguished Service Award is the most prestigious award which this Chapter conveys to deserving persons. This is an award comparable to the Distinguished Service Medal. He feels that a tasteful plaque or framed certificate is an acceptable means of awarding this honor. Gen Peck made a motion that we give a plaque or framed certificate to an Exceptionally Distinguished Service Award recipient in addition to listing the recipient's name in the directory. The motion was seconded by Larry Fernald and motion passed unanimously.

Auxiliary Liaison: Anita will reserve two tables in front of the head table for the surviving spouses at the May Luncheon. This is the annual Memorial Luncheon to honor those officers who did so much for their Country and MOAA.

Personal Affairs: Violet Smith announced the memorial service for June Vernon, who passed away 11 April, 2010, to be held on the fifteenth of May at 1400 hours at the Ranchero Village Chapel. Word has been received that Rose Johnson, spouse of LCDR (USN ret) Frank R. Johnson passed away on 25 April, 2010.

ROWC Liaison: The R.O.W.C. luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 11. Spouses and members of the St. Pete Chapter of MOAA are invited to attend. In honor of Armed Forces Day the Boca Ciega JROTC honor guard will present the colors. New officers for 2010-2011 will be installed and this will be the last R.O.W.C. luncheon until October, 2010.

Violet thanked everyone for her birthday card. She received a phone call from Carolyn Shields who said that both she and Roger are doing well. Violet and Anita are pleased with the response to attend the first coffee planned for spouses of MOAA members and surviving spouses to be held on May 5.

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership/Give me Ten: Larry Fernald made a motion on recommendation of Hazel McGrath that Alda Haley be moved to inactive status because of failing health. Jim Patton seconded the motion and motion passed.

Bill Bolin received the reports from some of callers to those who are chapter members but not life members. At this time there are three who will convert to life members. Not all of the ninety on the list have been called at this time. The goal

See EC Meeting Pg 8





MOAA Legislative Update

Edited by **Jim Patton**
From MOAA and other sources

As I See It — No Sacrifice

Too Great — To Forget

By Col. Steve Strobidge,
USAF-Ret.



We shouldn't be surprised, I guess, to see Pentagon leaders once again ratcheting up their complaints about rising military health care costs, and asserting those costs inhibit funding for weapon system procurement.

They've been beating the same drum for the past five or six years, after all.

To be fair, it's not as if there was no justification for fee increases. Anyone who thinks military health care fees should never go up is living in a dream world. There's just no way to argue that servicemembers whose retired pay might double, triple, or even quadruple over the course of several decades never should have to pay a single dollar more for health care than they did the day they left service.

But there are reasonable ways and unreasonable ways to approach that issue, and we haven't seen any reasonable proposals from the Pentagon yet.

What's particularly troubling is the seeming insensitivity and lack of perspective in the comments from the most senior defense leaders — military and civilian alike — the very people responsible for putting millions of servicemembers in harm's way over the past decade.

Let's give them the benefit of the doubt and speculate some kind of fee adjustment might save hundreds of millions of dollars a year in health care costs.

That's a relative drop in the bucket compared to the hundreds of billions (with a "b") that study after study (including many by the Defense Department inspector general) has documented is wasted by the Pentagon's broken procurement and accounting practices.

But it's always easier to try to shift blame to others than to put your own house in order. So defense leaders miss no public opportunity to try to shift their budget responsibilities to military retirees and families.

The tone and implications of those comments are particularly objectionable to career servicemembers who repeatedly answered the call to protect our national interests in hot and cold wars over several decades.

The undersecretary of defense for policy recently was quoted as saying, "[Many military retirees] in the private sector forego their private-sector benefits because it's better for them to

stay in TRICARE. ... If there was an infinite pot of money, that would be fine. The problem is that there is not an infinite pot of money. So those dollars are dollars we can't invest in equipment. ... We have the military carrying people who have a private-sector alternative to health care because we've got the incentive structure wrong."

Now let's get straight who's been "carrying" whom.

For the past 60-plus years, in order to induce enough people to meet the national need for large standing forces, defense and service leaders have been telling men and women in uniform that, in return for putting up with the extraordinary demands and sacrifices inherent in a service career, they'd be provided lifetime military health care coverage.

But after they've completed those decades of service — often including multiple combat tours in Afghanistan and Iraq (during periods when the Army was desperately paying \$40,000 enlistment bonuses for any new recruit) — Pentagon leaders view them as undeserving drains on the budget if they have the effrontery actually to use their service-earned health benefit.

When defense leaders say such things, the message to troops — past, present, and future — is that no sacrifice is too great to demand of those currently serving, and no government commitment is too firm to forget after their service has been completed.

Once again, thanks but no thanks for your service.

Doc Fix and Concurrent Receipt

As this newsletter is being prepared, the House of Representatives is expected to vote on legislation that includes both a multi-year fix for the 21% Medicare/TRICARE cut problem and also take an important step toward MOAA's goal of ending the VA disability offset to military retired pay.

The American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act (H.R. 4213) started as a bill to extend unemployment benefits and tax breaks but now includes two major MOAA priorities.

The bill would reverse the 21% cut in Medicare and TRICARE payments to doctors now scheduled to take effect on June 1.

And unlike what Congress has done recently, it would be a relatively long-term fix — staving off cuts and even allowing some modest payment increases through 2013.

In addition, House leaders included authority and funding for the first two years of President Obama's five-year plan to phase-in concurrent receipt eligibility for all Chapter 61 (medical) retirees.

For FY2011, it would authorize full concurrent receipt for all who were medically retired with less than 20 years of service and who have a 90% or 100% VA disability rating. In FY2012, concurrent receipt would be extended to similar

See Legislature, Pg 8





Monthly Luncheon; 14 May 2010

Reported by **Jim Patton**

Attended – 66: (70 reservations), 2 Member Guests,
3 Chapter Guests, Walk ins 1
[1 Cancels, 4 No-show]

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 by President Ed Lillich. Chaplain George Brown gave the invocation and Ed Lillich led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ed then called on each table to introduce their guests or first time attendees. We proceeded to the 50/50 and door prize drawings.



Anita Harrow reported on the work that the HOT Committee accomplished in the past month. Don Freese then updated us on the upcoming state convention.

Following the business portion of the meeting, we began the Chapter's annual Memorial Service, wherein we pay tribute to those members who have reported to the ultimate Commander-in-Chief during the past year.

Chapter Chaplain George Brown was the Master of Ceremonies. George led us through the program until it was time for Ed Lillich to read the names of our deceased members. Fred Edwards tolled the bell after each name was called.

Following the reading, the Chapter Honor Guard, consisting of Earl Peck, Terry Carr, Larry Fernald, Don Freese and Janice Mogan, rendered a final salute to our departed members.

Virginia Balke and Carroll Andrews were our only surviving spouses present.

Following the Memorial Service, we broke for lunch.

The first item on the agenda following lunch was Terry Carr introducing our guest speaker, Professor Michael Allen of Stetson University.

Professor Allen gave us a refresher course of the history of the three branches of our government. He went into some detail on the interactions of the different branches and how they perform to provide the checks and balances needed. He also gave us some history on how the checks and balances were strengthened by some of our early leaders.

At the conclusion of his talk, which was both interesting and entertaining, Professor Allen fielded questions and provided answers while elaborating on the historical significance of some of the earlier decisions by various early presidents, vice presidents, and chief justices.

Following Professor Allen, Ed reminded us of the June meeting and called upon Chaplain George Brown to provide a benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

AUXILIARY NEWS FIRST SPRING COFFEE

Reported by **Anita J. Harrow,**
SPA-MOAA Auxiliary Liaison

MOAA defines Auxiliary Members as “the heart behind one powerful voice.” That “title” clearly described the fourteen auxiliary members who attended our first Spring Coffee. Not only did they prove to be the “heart,” but also a “creative voice” generating a wealth of ideas focused on supporting SPA-MOAA.



With pastries and fruit courtesy of the Executive Committee and mimosas courtesy of Anita and Violet, the first Spring Coffee proved to be a fun and productive affair. After eating and socializing, the group learned what auxiliary members at other Florida chapters are doing and then generated ideas on how our auxiliary members could best serve the chapter. As a result of the “focus group” discussions, several ideas emerged. Auxiliary members thought a more clearly defined mentoring process for new widows and widowers in our chapter, similar to the Arlington Ladies at the national cemetery, should be established. The group discussed the possibility of our chapter establishing a support group for the Blackhawk Unit currently based at Clearwater airport, similar to the Helping Hand project at the Tampa Chapter. These ideas have merit and may be feasible for our chapter; when further developed, these project ideas will be brought to the Executive Committee for approval. The focus group discussions proved to be so stimulating, the group agreed to meet periodically to discuss ways to support SPA-MOAA.

In addition, to the focus group discussions, the many opportunities for auxiliary involvement in the HOT project were discussed, all in attendance enthusiastically supported HOT, and volunteered to help in one of the several phases of the project. With more members helping with the work, the HOT project started by Carolyn and Roger Shields will continue to achieve its mission....helping our troops.

Special thanks to all who helped to make our first Spring Coffee a fun and successful event. With the focus group concept, we are truly tapping into the “heart” and “creative voice” of our many talented auxiliary members.

Let's keep working together to make SPA-MOAA the best chapter!



Anne Isley, Pauline Edwards and Johnnie Neville





Terry Carr and Prof Mike Allen



Guest Speaker Prof Mike Allen



Ed Lillich Presenting Prof Allen with gift



Ceremonial Hats



Chaplain George Brown



The Honor Guard

Memorial Ceremony

Photos by Bill Lofgren

Spring Cofee



Christa Harrison, Jacquelyn D'Louhy and Hazel Murphy



Violet Smith and Anita Harrow



Chris Lillich



Peggy Cowardin and Christa Harrison



Joan Lander, Genevieve Poteat and Asa Myers

Photos by Chris Lillich





EC Meeting from Pg 4

was to have twenty conversions by the first of June. Don Freese emphasized that we get \$20.00 for everyone we convert on Give Me Ten. He believes the emphasis is worthwhile and he enjoys talking with the members.

Larry Fernald will send a letter and/or a copy of the back page of the O.C. to all the lapsed members in the area. There are thirty one State Guard conventions where MOAA will pay for a booth if Chapter members would like to man one in their area. There are three sources for recruiting new members: active duty, reserve and guard.

Convention Update: Plans for the convention are going well. At the present time our Chapter has 32 attendees signed up.

Memorial Service: The President passed around the program for the May 14, 2010 memorial service. It is basically the same as last year except for the name changes. Bill Lofgren will provide the piano music for the service and the Pinellas County Veterans Council Honor Guard will render Taps.

NEW BUSINESS:

Five Star Award: Larry Fernald passed around a copy of the Five Star Award application which he sent in. He will call to make sure that it was received by MOAA before the dead line.

Minutes of the Executive Committee: Larry Fernald made a motion that the minutes of the executive committee meeting be sent to the Executive Committee for approval with any additions or corrections sent to the Secretary by e-mail prior to the minutes being sent to the Officers Call for printing. Charlene Sanders seconded the motion and after discussion the motion passed.

Delegates to the Convention: President Ed Lillich appointed Fred Edwards, Larry Fernald, Terry Carr to be delegates along with him at the convention this month.

There being no further business, Charlene Sanders gave the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 1300 hours.

The next executive committee meeting will be June 7, 2010.

Legislature from Pg 5

members with a 70% or 80% rating. That would give Congress two years to find funds to phase in the same protection for all Chapter 61 retirees, regardless of disability rating.

Among other provisions, H.R. 4213 would also extend additional standard deduction for state and local real property taxes and extend the employer credit for firms paying differential wages to activated Guard and Reserve members.

America's First Spacewalk

NASA Astronaut Ed White made history on June 3, 1965, when he floated out of the hatch of his Gemini 4 capsule into the void of space. Ed was a Lieutenant Colonel in the U S Air Force. He was born in San Antonio, Texas, on November 14, 1930. Died January 27, 1967, at NASA Kennedy Space Center, Florida, in the Apollo spacecraft fire.

Lessons Learned — Brief Encounter

In the fall of 1958, I had just completed an arduous 72-day-long mission in the waters of the North Pacific Ocean on my submarine, the USS Diodon (SS-349). It was well-known at the time that those given a duty assignment on a diesel submarine were the young and strong; I was 19 years old then, 6 feet 2 inches tall, and in great physical shape, which made me a perfect candidate for the assignment.

Each night, we raised the submarine's snorkel to suck in fresh air and ran the diesel engines to charge the submarine's batteries. When daylight was upon us, we lowered the snorkel and began breathing the air trapped inside our submerged boat. Fresh fruit and vegetables were not available for the entire duration of the trip. The last of our canned meat — Vienna sausages — saw us through the final week at sea.

After sailing up Tokyo Bay in the southern Kanto region of Japan, we entered the shipyard dry dock at Yokosuka. Within one day, the amazing shipyard workers had the submarine completely surrounded with bamboo staging, all tied by hand with twine. I received an assignment to assist a 50-year-old Japanese machinist and a 25-year-old Japanese shipfitter to inspect and make a minor modification to the submarine's safety tank.

As soon as the manhole cover was loosened, a crane operator was there to lift it off. I then stepped in. Looking closely at the great shape the submarine's safety tank was in, the shipfitter commented, "Now I see why we lost the war." After hearing this statement, the older, and in my opinion wiser, machinist looked up at me and asked whether the shipfitter and I would follow him to his machine shop, because he had something he wanted to show us.

We all walked down a tunnel that led to the machine shop. Pictures of young children dressed in school uniforms lined the tunnel's walls. Stopping at one particular picture, the machinist tapped his finger on the glass and said, "That is my granddaughter."

In the photo, a young girl stood at attention. In her right hand she held the square end of a pointed stick, or picket, with the pointed end resting on her shoulder. The machinist said in a quiet but firm voice, "Do not ever forget that your atomic bomb saved my granddaughter's life. It woke up our leaders. She would have died trying to defend our land with that pointed stick." (That same atomic bomb also saved a servicemember from having to live with the memory of shooting this little girl.)

Now, 51 years later, the lesson of that brief encounter remains with this grandfather, drowning out the voices decrying the American military's use of the atomic bomb in World War II.

— H.L. "Hal" Bartke is a retired Navy lieutenant. He lives in Bridgton, Maine.



June Birthdays (73 to 94 years)

Day	LName	FName	Rank	SVC
01	Binzer	William	Col	USAF (Ret)
29	Fine	A. Kenneth	MAJ	AUS (Ret)
19	Fontana	Raymond	LT	USN (Ret)
29	Harren	Robert	MAJ	USA (Ret)
04	Hoddinott	June	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
29	Hodgen	Betty	Mrs.	LifeAuxMbr-AF
01	Kaniss	Margery	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
11	Kometas	Ermene	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
09	Palsha	Robert	LTC	USA (Ret)
04	Stafford	Margaret	COL	USA (Ret)
22	Wadham	Peggy	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A

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••GOLD –

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 Bischofs, Hennie Mrs.
 Bolin, Bill CDR
 Carr, Terry LTC
 Christy, Marge Mrs
 Dawson, Pete Maj
 Edwards, Fred LtCol
 Fernald, Larry Lt Col
 Finley, Paul LCDR
 Freese, Don CAPT
 Isley, Anne Mrs.
 Jessup, Jean Mrs.
 Kottich, Charles COL
 Landers, Joan Mrs.
 Lee, Bill LCDR
 Lillich, Ed MAJ
 Lofgren, Bill Col
 Love, H. B. COL
 Milford, John Lt Col
 Munchbach, Rose LTC
 Palmer, Stew Col

Patton, Jim CWO4
 Peck, Earl Maj Gen
 Sims, Robert Maj
 Smith, Paul BG
 Smith, Violet Mrs.
 Talbitzer, John LT

••SILVER –

Green, Richard CWO4
 Lanier, Laurie Maj
 Lorence, Marie LTC
 Shine, Jack Col
 Tondreau, Herb CWO4

••BRONZE –

Lawson, George Col
 McGrath, Hazel LCDR
 Mogan, Janice LTC
 Plummer, Dot Mrs.

Member donations ONLY:
 \$1,759 as of 5/19/2010

Did You Know?

The invasion of France on June 6, 1944 was a triumph of intelligence, coordination, secrecy, and planning. The bold attack was also a tremendous risk. Ultimately it succeeded because of individual soldiers' bravery in combat. Learn some of the basic facts about D-Day.

The Meaning of the "D"

Ever since June 6, 1944, people have been asking what the "D" in "D-Day" means. Does it stand for "decision?" The day that 150,000 Allied soldiers landed on the shores of Normandy was certainly decisive. And with ships, landing craft and planes leaving port by the tens of thousands for a hostile shore, it is no wonder that some would call it "disembarkation" or "departed."

There is not much agreement on the issue. But the most ordinary and likely of explanations is the one offered by the U.S. Army in their published manuals. The Army began using the codes "H-hour" and "D-day" during World War I to indicate the time or date of an operation's start. Military planners would write of events planned to occur on "H-hour" or "D-day" — long before the actual dates and times of the operations would be known, or in order to keep plans secret. And so the "D" may simply refer to the "day" of invasion

D-Day's Impressive Numbers

An invading army had not crossed the unpredictable, dangerous English Channel since 1688 — and once the massive force set out, there was no turning back. The 5000-vessel armada stretched as far as the eye could see, transporting over 150,000 men and nearly 30,000 vehicles across the channel to the French beaches. Six parachute regiments — over 13,000 men — were flown from nine British airfields in over 800 planes. More than 300 planes dropped 13,000 bombs over coastal Normandy immediately in advance of the invasion.

War planners had projected that 5,000 tons of gasoline would be needed daily for the first 20 days after the initial assault. In one planning scenario, 3,489 long tons of soap would be required for the first four months in France.

By nightfall on June 6, more than 9,000 Allied soldiers were dead or wounded, but more than 100,000 had made it ashore, securing French coastal villages. And within weeks, supplies were being unloaded at UTAH and OMAHA beachheads at the rate of over 20,000 tons per day.

An American Noah

Louisiana entrepreneur Andrew Jackson Higgins first designed shallow-draft boats in the late 1920s to rescue Mississippi River flood victims. Higgins tried for years to sell his boats to the U.S. military, but he was rejected repeatedly. At last, the Marine Corps selected the flat-bottomed landing craft for troop landings on Pacific beaches. Higgins, who had paid heavily out-of-pocket to promote his boats, finally landed the government contract — and his factories produced 20,000 of the versatile craft for the war effort — including D-Day.

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Thru May 2010

Financial Report Summary for the Month of April – 2010

Officers Call Booster

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ (247.41)
..... Donations	\$ 20.00
..... Ad Income	\$ 0.00
..... Postage & Printing Expenses	\$ (335.07)
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ (562.48)

HOT Fund

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 3,101.52
..... Donations	\$ 120.00
..... Expenses	\$ (1,024.12)
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 2,197.40

Scholarship Fund

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 1,917.00
..... Donations	\$ 320.00
..... Memorials	\$ 30.00
..... 50/50 Income	\$ 45.00
..... Expended	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 2,309.00

Operating Account

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 8,717.50
..... Monthly Luncheon	\$ 732.00
..... Dues/Give Me 10	\$ 70.00
..... Miscellaneous Income	\$ 0.00
..... Interest Earned	\$ 4.44
..... Luncheon Expense	\$ (640.00)
..... Supplies	\$ (171.00)
..... Printing	\$ (31.06)
..... Name Tags	\$ 0.00
..... Post Office	\$ 0.00
..... Memorial to Scholarship	\$ (30.00)
..... Other Organizations	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 8,651.88



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Recruiting

We can all help in the recruiting of new members. If you know a retired or former military officer or surviving spouse who is not a MOAA member, invite them to a monthly meeting.





TAPS

Thankfully none.

2010 Officers Call BOOSTER Donors

Gold (\$50 & more); Silver (\$25-49); Bronze (\$1-24)

••GOLD –

Bischofs, Hennie Mrs.
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Fernald, Larry Lt Col
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Isley, Anne Mrs.
Lee, Bill LCDR
Lofgren, Bill Col
Love, H. B. COL
Milford, John Lt Col
Neville, Johnnie Mrs.
Palmer, Stew Col
Patton, Jim CWO4

Peck, Earl Maj Gen
Sims, Robert Maj
Smith, Violet Mrs.

••SILVER –

Butler, Mildred Col
Green, Richard CWO4
Tondreau, Herb CWO4

••BRONZE –

Lanier, Laurie Maj
Lawson, George Col

Member donations ONLY:
\$948 as of 5/19/2010

Sick List

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

- LTC Sarah Niblack, USA (Ret)
- COL Roger Shields, USA (Ret)
- LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN (Ret)
- Col Thurm Dwyre, USAF (Ret)
- Lt Col John Milford, USAF (Ret)



Welcome Our New Members!

LTC Kristine Ashley, USA (Ret) 3581 Oak Lake Dr., Palm Harbor, FL 34684; 727-784-4534

LCDR "CJ" Johnson, USN (Ret) 2961 E. Vina del Mar Blvd, St Pete Beach, FL 33706; 727-360-6057

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Edwards, Pauline Mrs.
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Isley, Anne Mrs.
Landers, Joan Mrs.
Lofgren, Bill Col
Lorence, Marie LTC
Love, H. B. COL
Milford, John Lt Col
Palmer, Stew Col
Patton, Jim CWO4
Peck, Earl Maj Gen
Sims, Robert Maj
Smith, Violet Mrs.

••SILVER –

Bischofs, Hennie Mrs.
Dawson, Pete Maj
Lee, Bill LCDR
Lillich, Ed MAJ
Murphy, Hazel 1LT
Neville, Johnnie Mrs.
Trahan, Creighton LTC

••BRONZE –

Brown, Gary B Gen
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Green, Richard CWO4
Lawson, George Col
Tondreau, Herb CWO4
Vitters, Cindy LTC
Walters, Barbara Mrs.

Member donations ONLY:
\$2,290 as of 5/19/2010





St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA

June Luncheon



18 June, 2010

Banquet Masters
8100 Park Blvd
Pinellas Park, FL

11:00 AM to 11:45 Social Hour
11:45 Meeting Called to Order
13:30 Meeting Adjourned

Guest Speaker:

MAJ Michael Alvis, USAR

**Subject: Army Reserve MEDEVAC
Unit**

In 1989 Major Alvis enlisted in the 82nd Airborne, in Ft. Bragg, NC as a Signal Corps Radio Operator. In 1992 he received a Green-to-Gold Scholarship and went back to Oregon for College. In 1996 after graduating from Oregon State University, he started flying in the Oregon National Guard with the 1042 Medical Company (AA). In 2003 he was assigned to the University of Wyoming as an Assistant Professor of Military Science. In 2005 he moved to Ft. Polk, Louisiana and worked as a MEDEVAC Pilot in Cajun DUSTOFF, an Observer/Controller in Operations Group (OPSGRP) for the aviation division. In 2008 he was accepted into the Army Reserves as an AGR officer and went to Salt Lake City to the 807th Medical Command as assistant G3. He was selected by the Command Selection Board, and in December 2008 reported to Clearwater as Commander of F Company, 5-159th Aviation Regiment. This unit is the first Army Reserve MEDEVAC unit since 1995.

LUNCHEON MEETING

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, June 18th

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• **Reservations by Wednesday June 16th**

Your name: _____.

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MAJ Ed Lillich 546-2246



June Events:

- 3rd: First Space Walk
- 6th: D-Day 1944
- 14th:  Flag Day, Fly the Flag
- 14th: US Army established 1775
- 20th: Father's Day
- 21st: First Day of Summer
- 30th: Superman's Birthday

Notice

In the future if you make a reservation for the monthly luncheon and fail to show, it will be necessary to charge you for the meal. We are charged for the number of reservations made and we must pay the caterer for the reservation number that we provide even when we have no shows. We appreciate your cooperation in helping with this situation



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