



# OFFICERS CALL

## ST. PETERSBURG AREA CHAPTER,

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



**VOL IV No XI**    **★★★★★ Five Star Chapter : 2002-05 ★★★★★**    **November 2006**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up** 2005 Electronic Media; **Winner** 2003 Print & Electronic Media & Web Site

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CAPT Don Freese, USN (Ret), President

I recently had the opportunity to attend three events that I would like to share with you.

27 September Sherry and I attended the Change of Command Ceremony of the Fourth Marine Recruit Training Battalion (4<sup>th</sup> RTB) at Parris Island, South Carolina. LtCol Karla Jessup USMC, a family friend, assumed command of the 4<sup>th</sup> RTB, which is one of four RTBs at Parris Island, and is 100% women.

Seventeen years, ago almost to the day, our son graduated from the 3<sup>rd</sup> RTB and there were almost no women at Parris Island, now there is an entire Battalion.

7 October Sherry and I attended the Navy Air Force Football Game at the USAF Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Thirty years ago women were first admitted to the Service Academies and today 20% are women. I've seen or attended almost every Army Air Force, Army Navy and Navy Air Force game since 1956 and this is the first time I have ever seen any of the Service Academies "March On" together. It was quite impressive to see men and women proudly standing side by side and Academy Companies standing company to company.

28 to 30 September, Sherry and I along with Larry and Barbara Fernald had the pleasure of representing your chapter at the 2006 SE Region Presidents Symposium in Savannah, GA. There were almost 370 attendees with 57 chapter presidents from AL, GA, FL, MS, SC and TN.

We learned a lot but most importantly we learned that the 2003 name change from TROA to MOAA is beginning to show the benefit hoped for in that for the first time in years national MOAA membership, as well as your chapter, will not decline and remain constant at approximately 360,000 and 330 respectively. This is a major accomplishment because nationally we will lose 17,000 of the "Greatest Generation." How is this being done?

President continued on Pg 10



### PROGRAM NOVEMBER 10

COL Scott Brumbaugh, USA

Colonel Scott A. Brumbaugh is commander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Operations Group, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. He is responsible for all operational aspects of the group in support of the 6<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing and the wing's support of worldwide tanker and airlift operations. He is also responsible for airfield use, including tower and ground control services, flight plan processing, weather forecasting, and advisories.

Colonel Brumbaugh entered the Air Force in 1982 as a graduate from Pennsylvania State University (ROTC). He attended undergraduate pilot training at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, and earned his wings in 1984. He has served as Command Evaluator Pilot for Strategic Air Command; Special Assistant to the Commander, US Southern Command; Executive Officer to the Commander, 21<sup>st</sup> AF; Commander, 344<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Squadron; and Assistant Deputy Director for Operations NMCC, Joint Staff J3. Prior to his current assignment, Col Brumbaugh was the Chief, Strategic Initiatives Division, US Transportation Command. His most recent deployment supporting OEF/OIF was as the Commander, 380<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Operations Group, South West Asia. Colonel Brumbaugh is a command pilot with over 3,500 hours in KC-135A/E/R/Q, C-37, C-141, T38, and T37.



### —CHECK THIS LABEL—

If the top line of your mailing label reads  
**"Plz pay your 07 dues"**  
rather than **"Pd-07"**  
we do not have your dues renewal for 2007.

Questions: Col Al Neville, 522-5685, OR  
nevil45@tampabay.rr.com

**NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**our November Luncheon**



## Officers Call

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- Visitation ..... **LCDR Hazel McGrath**, USN ..... 545-3884

**AND** Life Members Emeritus **AND** Past Presidents

## Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 339  
 Regular Members - 241  
 Auxillary Members - 98

### Military Services:

Army - 89                      USMC - 13  
 USAF - 78                     USCG - 8  
 Navy - 53

## From the Editor

**COL Roger J. Shields, USA (Ret)**

• **Convention At Sea** – Attention sailors and would-be sailors! Sign up now for the Florida Council of Chapters, MOAA Convention at Sea aboard the Carnival Celebration which sails from the port of Jacksonville on May 10, 2007 and returns on May 14, 2007. Members of the Northeast Florida Chapter are working hard to make this a memorable event. More information is provided in this Officers Call as well as at our monthly luncheons. Important:



To attend will require that we possess a current, valid U.S. passport. The time to apply for an updated passport is now!

• **Recruiting** – It is in our interest as members to help to recruit new members of our chapter and of national MOAA. Why? Congress giveth and Congress taketh away. They have attempted to reduce Medicare costs which might cause physicians to refuse to see Tricare-for-Life patients. Who will continue the fight against the reduction of earned benefits when we are no longer capable of educating Congress? Who will object when pay and benefits to our active forces are reduced and cause a shortfall in recruiting and retention? We hear that the Army will meet its recruiting goals this year but barely. How will they do it? They are forcing recruiters to accept the lowest mental level of recruits who are only marginally trainable if at all. Defense Secretary MacNamara did the same to the Army during the Vietnam War. These recruits became a major headache to the Army as marginal soldiers accounted for most of the AWOLs, desertions, fraggers and misfits who diverted scarce resources to deal with them. Active duty officers may have to put up with this egregious example of amnesia at the top but we who are no longer on active duty may voice strong objection to the armchair politicians who never served one day of active duty.

Our collective voices will grow weaker unless we act to grow in numbers of MOAA members. Is someone you know just waiting to be asked to a chapter luncheon with a view to joining MOAA and our chapter?

• **Volunteering** – It's a sad commentary that this chapter has operated for over a year with no secretary. An excellent job has been done on a "temporary" basis by Basil Burrell and by Larry Fernald but they each have other duties to perform for our chapter. I am very pleased to report that D. Kay Benson has volunteered to be the Secretary! Thank you, D. Kay!



## Why the Marine Corps Birthday Celebrations?

by LtCol Fred L. Edwards, Jr., USMC (Ret)

On Nov. 10 every year, Marines around the world wish each other, "Happy Birthday," share in the camaraderie that only Marines can understand, and participate in the most formal celebration their circumstances allow. Ask most Marines when the Marine Corps birthday celebrations began and they'll probably reply, "Since the beginning." But that's not exactly the case. Here's what happened.

On November 10, 1775, the Continental Congress in Philadelphia authorized two battalions of Continental Marines to be raised and to be quartered aboard vessels for service to the American colonies in the revolution against the English crown.

During the revolution, Marines fought on land and sea, but at the close of the war the Continental Marines and the Navy were all but disbanded. Then, on July 11, 1798, President John Adams signed an act creating the U.S. Marine Corps. Between 1798 and 1921, Marines commemorated the July date but held no formal celebrations. On Oct. 21, 1921, Maj. Edwin McClellan of the historical section at Marine Corps headquarters suggested to Major General Commandant John A. Lejeune that the original birthday of Nov. 10, 1775, be declared a Marine Corps holiday to be celebrated throughout the Corps. McClellan further suggested that a dinner be held in Washington D.C., to commemorate the event. Guests would include prominent members of the Marine Corps, Army, and Navy, and descendants of the revolution. Accordingly, on Nov. 1, 1921, Gen. Lejeune issued Marine Corps Order No. 47, Series 1921. The order summarized the history, mission, and

tradition of the Corps, and directed that it be read to every command on November 10 each year in honor of the birthday of the Marine Corps. His order has been carried out ever since, with the addition of a reading of a special birthday message from the current commandant.



10/10/1961, aboard CVA(31), the Bon Homme Richard, WestPad, Capt Fred Edwards, USMC, presiding

The first birthday ball on record took place in 1925 in Philadelphia. Guests included the secretaries of war and navy, Maj. Gen. Commandant Lejeune, famous statesmen, soldiers, and sailors. The principle event was the unveiling of a memorial tablet on the site of Tun Tavern, where the original Continental Marines had been formed. A parade included Marines, Army and Navy detachments, National Guard, and other military organizations. The evening banquet was held at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel and a ball followed at the Bellevue-

Stratford.

The first known cake ceremony was added to the birthday celebration at Quantico, Va., in 1935. Cake ceremonies have continued each year, with the senior Marine officer slicing the first two pieces of cake using an official Marine Corps sword, presenting the first slice to the oldest Marine, and the second to the youngest.

And so today, Marines and their families, wherever they are around the globe, make a special point to celebrate the birthday of their Corps on November 10. (Edited for brevity)

**Happy Birthday, Marines!**

### Platoon Command in Korea

John F. Jessup received his commission as a regular army officer almost at the very moment the North Koreans invaded South Korea. He was stationed at Fort Knox Kentucky, as a first lieutenant in an armored infantry company. He was 23 years old. He volunteered to go to Korea and was soon instructed to report to a port of aerial embarkation in California.

The first leg of the trip, to Japan, was uneventful. My stay at Camp Drake, outside Tokyo, was equally, so except for the fact that I was getting the uncomfortable feeling that things were not going well in Korea. This feeling was based more on rumors than on anything we were told by the army. Indeed, we were told very little, and what we did hear only tended to confuse the picture that much more.



Thus, with a minimum of fanfare and very little orientation, I was ordered to assemble a draft of personnel and to travel by train to Fukuoka, on the island of Kyushu, where we were to be embarked for Korea. There were roughly 150 officers and men in the movement package and I, as a first lieutenant, was in charge. Of the officers on the train, I was the only one who had had any prior service. Furthermore, most of the enlisted men in that group were administrative personnel who had magically become infantrymen because of the inability to get qualified replacements. Thus, clerks and supply personnel in the various headquarters of the occupation forces in Japan found themselves on their way to war as riflemen. If our trip to Fukuoka could be

**Platoon continued o Pg 6**





## Luncheon Meeting; 20 October 2006

Reported by **Basil Burrell**

**Attended—66:** Members—33, AuxMbrs—10; Wives—15, Guests—3, Walk-ins—5, No shows—(5), Cancellations—(1)

Our President CAPT Don Freese USNR(Ret) opened our meeting at 1140 hours and asked Chaplain COL George Brown USA(Ret) to give the Invocation. Don then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Don spoke of the South East Regional Presidents Meeting in Savannah Georgia which he, Lt Col Larry Fernald USAF(Ret), Lt Col Fred Edwards USMC(Ret), and Mrsl Violet Smith AuxMbr-A attended.

News from VADM Norb Ryan is that MOAA is doing well and will not have a net loss of membership this year. This in spite of continuing loss of the members of "The Greatest Generation."

COL Roger Shields USA(Ret) gave a report about the activities of HOT (Help Our Troops). Twenty-five boxes of goodies have been sent during this month of October. He and Carolyn are doing a great job.

Don informed us that COL Scott Brumbaugh USA from MacDill is scheduled to be our speaker for the 10 November 2006 Luncheon. That's right: 10 NOV and not 17 Nov. The luncheon has been moved up one week to coincide with Veterans Day.

President Don Freese introduced our speaker Ms Lee Ann Ned who is the Vice President/Manager of the Southeast Region of USAA. Office in Tampa. Her educational accomplishments are listed in our October issue of Officers Call so there is no need to repeat them here. Ms Ned did give credit to USAA for providing financial aid with her Masters and CPCU degrees.

USAA is the only insurance provided with no war exclusion. USAA provides many services for members of the uniformed services and their families including children and grandchildren of USAA members. Services include not only automobile insurance but Homeowners insurance. They have never canceled a home owners policy in Florida in spite of our bad weather. They do have a limit on writing new home owners policy simply because they must limit their exposure in coastal areas.

Other services USAA provides are: Mutual Funds which are all highly rated by Morningstar, Financial planning, Banking through USAA Federal Savings Bank. USAA Federal Savings Bank is rated number one by JD Power and Associates for banking services. J.D. Power is a member of USAA so that must tell us something about the quality of services provided by USAA. Ms Ned was accompanied by her associates

Ms Lynne McChristian and Mr. David Tassinari who operated the power-point display and explained a number of items. USAA has a web site in which all of their services re enumerated. The site address is: [www.usaa.com](http://www.usaa.com).

Ms Ned and her colleagues answered several questions and then President Don thanked them and presented each of them with a Chapter/MOAA glass tumbler.

President Don informed us that our annual Installation dinner will be at Treasure Island Yacht Club on 19 January 2007. The function begins at 1730 hours. Seating is limited so make your reservation as soon as possible.

Chaplain Brown then gave the Benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Left: USAA's Lee Ann Ned & President Don Freese



Above: Marie Lorence, Eleanor Burrell,  
Ann Isley

Below: Bob & Maggie Eynatten





11/10/2006

Basil Burrell, photographer & reporter w/ his better half, Eleanor



19/10/2006

Officers Call editor, Roger Shields with Brent Gudmundson



Chaplain George Brown

Gunni & Ron Merritt



2006

Hank Curran & Violet Smith



New members, Rose & Bill Billington



10/2006

### THE BUZZ

#### COL Roger J. Shields, USA, (Ret)

• **ROWC Luncheon** – If you like good food and superior service, plan to attend the season opening luncheon each Fall which is traditionally held at the Wine Cellar on North Redington Beach. The ROWC President, Barbara King, introduced CAPT Bud Schneiweis, USCG, of the MOAA national staff who presented a subject of great interest to the majority of the luncheon attendees. While most are aware of the benefits of Tricare-For-Life (TFL) which has superior benefits, there are some limitations. Our speaker explained some of the shortcomings of the medical program. We all know that TFL supplements Medicare. Did you know that Medicare benefits do not extend off shore of the United States which is considered foreign travel? Before traveling outside of the USA, it would be well to refresh yourself with a review of Medicare/TFL to see what is covered and what alternatives are available for medical coverage while traveling or visiting out of the USA.

• **COL John Jessup, USA (Ret)** – As many of us know, John is recovering from the brink of disaster which has had him hospitalized for an extended period of time. John has a unique history in the Army and in the academic world as a

student of military history. Your editor was curious about his surviving being wounded in combat in four different encounters with an enemy. He was awarded four Purple Hearts but he would not discuss the four combat encounters resulting in his awards. He is a military historian and has had his books widely published. He also holds a PhD in military history and is a past President of the Military History Society, a worldwide association.

We thank his wife, Jean Jessup for sending us a copy of an article on John which appeared in “War In Peace” an Orbis Publication. His story, “Platoon Leader in Korea” appears in this issue of “Officers Call.”

• **Donations to HOT** – Your generosity to the HOT (Help Our Troops) program has been astounding! From the letters received from Afghanistan, the troops are most surprised and most grateful. As a gentle reminder, please consider that the items we send are going to a Muslim country where religion is a sensitive subject. Please do not donate any religious articles such as pictures, cards, icons or statues. Let’s not do harm while trying to do good. Please remember to secure bottle caps of shampoo and other containers. No alcoholic beverages and no pork products please. Thanks again for helping to bring a little sunshine into the life of our troops overseas.

Carolyn Shields



### Platoon continued from Pg 3

classified as having been without incident, no similar claim could be made for the shipboard crossing of the Korea Strait between Kyushu and Pusan, South Korea. First of all, the ship we were loaded aboard was a disreputable coaster that flew the Japanese flag, appeared ready to sink at the slightest provocation and was, as it turned out, manned by a crew that might have been recruited by Blackbeard the Pirate. We were aboard that wretched ship for about 36 hours, during which time one soldier was knocked unconscious by a female coal-stoker in the crew and three men suffered temporary blindness from imbibing some foul-smelling concoction that had been peddled by another, more enterprising, member of the ship's company. All of these men had recovered by the time we landed at Pusan. At that point, the packet was split up. One of the officers and several of the enlisted men accompanied me to RCT5, the Fifth Regimental Combat Team, and at least one of them — one of those who had drunk the bad booze — was killed within the first week. As I had served in combat in World War II, and also was relatively senior, I was appointed executive officer of Company E, RCT-5. I was also given the additional duty of platoon leader of the second platoon. The job of leading a platoon was, obviously, more important at this critical time, so I put aside my XO hat — indeed, I never got a chance to try it on and, with great delight, prepared to join my platoon.

We arrived in the platoon position on a small hill just before dusk. A mountain called Papasan lay before us and was held by the enemy. The nearest friendly unit was perched atop its own hill some 1500 meters (about a mile) away to our right and was beyond support range. In the other direction there was nothing but the East China Sea. We were the south anchor of the Pusan perimeter. I had come near to collapse climbing the trail to the position so no one thought to wake me at dawn the next morning to tell me that we were about to be attacked. Everyone else in the platoon was alerted, but not me. My first indication that I was in a war came when a mortar round went off about 1.5 m (5 feet) from the hole in which I lay asleep. Someone shouted 'Keep your head down lieutenant, it's only a small attack.' At the time I thought how nice it was that they were saving me for bigger things.

The last week of July and the first of August are a collage of memories. We got mortared a lot, especially whenever we were trying to eat one of our infrequent hot meals. We all had dysentery. For better or for worse, the men soon came to realize that I was there, that I was in charge, and that I was just as much involved in our welfare as they were. I began to understand their individual strengths and weaknesses and, for the first time in my life, my own as well. Before long we were acting collectively and as a unit. It was great! In mid-September my regiment was moved north to the vicinity of Waegwan to pass through the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division and break out of the perimeter in conjunction with the Inchon landings. My mission was to secure Hill 301 which intelligence said was held by only a handful of enemy troops. The handful turned out to be about a battalion and we were in serious trouble from the beginning. Nothing worked right. Ammunition we received at the height of the battle proved to

be mislabeled and recoilless rifle rounds turned out to be 3.5 inch rockets when unpacked. Even more damaging was my inability to establish radio communications, as most of the channels were blocked by commanders complimenting each other on their great successes. I needed ammunition and fire support; we had been stopped dead in our tracks and were taking heavy casualties. We finally had to be withdrawn and the job of taking Hill 301 given to another battalion from the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry. All of Company E had suffered because of poor intelligence we had received.

By dusk on 16 September 1950 more than three-quarters of my platoon were dead or seriously wounded, and more than half of the seriously wounded dead by morning, primarily because the medical evacuation system was inefficient. When we withdrew, there were only seven of us who could still function, and all seven of us had been wounded, some several times. We were heavily mortared that night, however, and two of the seven were killed. For all intents and purposes, the second platoon had ceased to exist. Of those killed earlier on the hill, two were the victims of friendly fire when a soldier from our own tank company opened up on us with a .50 caliber machine gun. We had to fire back at him to finally get the shooting stopped.

Some of us who had been wounded were able to return to the platoon and help in trying to rebuild it, but it was never the same. One by one the old hands who had survived Hill 301 became casualties until, at the beginning of October, I was hurt seriously enough to be evacuated to Japan. I eventually went back to Korea for another combat tour and subsequently, over the next 30 years, served in numerous other infantry units. But none of these, in any way, ever measured up to those few months in 1950 when I was a rifle platoon leader, and no part of my life is so vividly etched in my memory.

COL John F. Jessup, USA (Ret)

### October 2006

Operating Account:	
Income:	\$2,770.00
Expenses:	\$1,230.97
Cash Flow in:	\$1,539.03
Operating funds:	\$4,875.51

Scholarship Fund:	
Oct. 1st:	\$1,205.66
Donations:	\$615.00
Oct. 22nd:	\$1,820.66

Help Our Troops Fund:	
Oct. 1st:	\$829.61
Donations:	\$1,054.30
50/50:	\$48.00
Expended:	\$452.90
Oct. 22nd:	\$1,479.01

Comment: Annual dues rolling in.

Maj. Pete Dawson, USAF (Ret)  
Treasurer



## Executive Committee Meeting

St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA;

3 October 2006

Reported by Basil Burrell

3 October 2006 Wardroom USCG St. Petersburg

The October Board Meeting was called to order at 1130 hours by President Don Freese. George Brown gave the Invocation and President Freese led us in the salute to our Flag.

Don presented a name tag to new member Hank Curran and then asked that the minutes of 11 Sept meeting be approved as published in Officers Call. Minutes were approved.

Nominating Committee: President Don Freese gave the report for the Committee and their selections are printed in October OC. The Committee has not yet found anyone for the office of Secretary. Al Neville, who is very involved with the KIWANIS club, says that since their Secretary position is rather onerous they have found it necessary to give an inducement such as free membership.

Al Neville and Basil Burrell will count votes at our election for Officers. MacDill Liaison: Violet Smith could not attend today so her report was read by President Freese. Ms. Smith attended the Health Care Consumers Advisory Council (HCCAC) meeting on 26 Sept at MacDill AFB. They have a new Commander. Col Mike Culhane is the new 6 MDG Commander. There have been a large number of staff changes as usual but no major surprises. 4 November will be Retiree Appreciation Day at MacDill AFB and it is hoped that Flu immunization will be available as well as other screenings such as blood pressure. Violet reports that she was impressed by the interest and enthusiasm of Col Culhane and his staff towards retirees. Ground breaking for a new Clinic facility of 254,000 square feet to cost \$92 million will be in the summer of 2007 with opening set for December 2009.

Violet learned that blood and urine samples for processing by MacDill can be drawn at over 50 civilian sites operated by Quest Diagnostics. You don't have to go to MacDill to have such work done by MacDill. Col Culhane's honorary membership was given to his assistant for delivery to him.

F-35 STO/VL



Give Me 10: We were informed by MOAA that 25 of our Chapter members were not members of National MOAA. President Freese has got this number down to only 14 and is working on reducing that number.

2006 SE Presidents' Symposium: President Freese and 1<sup>st</sup> VP Larry Fernald attended the Symposium in Savannah Georgia from 28 to 30 September representing our Chapter. Fred Edwards and Violet Smith also attended as presenters and facilitators. Approximately 370 individuals including 55 Chapter presidents, MOAA staff and presenters from as far away as California attended. The best news from on high is that the name change to MOAA is working, and losses associated with 17,000 deaths of the "greatest generation" will be offset by new members and auxiliary members.

The success of the TOPS program is phenomenal. In the last two job fairs netted MOAA \$250,000. Ron Merritt will head up our Chapter's TOPS program. He has much experience in this area. Fred Edwards told us this is the 7<sup>th</sup> time he has helped set up and run the SE Symposium and it is getting better with each time. President Freese informs us that there are 500 lapsed MOAA members in our area who need to be contacted. He informs us also that Roger Shields is looking into a way to contact those people with "return postage paid" envelopes to help hold our costs down. First VP: Larry Fernald is seeking a speaker for our December Luncheon meeting at Banquet Masters. Second VP: Al Neville tells us it is "Dues Renewal Time" and letters will be going out soon seeking money for dues, scholarship, HOT and OC Booster programs. ID card renewal program is working well and renewal cards can be obtained at the Navy Reserve Center near the St Pete/Clearwater Airport. Reservations MUST be made by calling 727-531-7033.

Treasurer's Report: Peter Dawson says the past month saw nothing unusual in our receipts and expenditures. Treasurer's Report was approved by acclimation.

Help Our Troops: Roger Shields and Carolyn Shields report that boxes are being addressed to new unit addresses in Afghanistan.

Fred Edwards reported that Rep C. W. "Bill" Young sent one of Fred's columns to President Bush and it was well received.

Hank Curran will try to get Roger Staubach as speaker for one of our luncheon meetings.

President Freese showed us a new copy of the Operations Work Book. A question was asked why some HOT contributions were for \$1.00. Al Neville answered that "contributions in kind" are recorded as that amount. The speaker at our 20 October luncheon is to be Ms Lee Ann Ned who is VP/Central Mgr USAA SE Region with office in Tampa. I'm sure that most of us have our insurance from USAA plus some of us use their financial services.

At 1300 President Freese called on COL George Brown for the Benediction and then adjourned the meeting. Basil



## MOAA Legislative Update

### 21 September 2006

Edited for brevity by Col Roger Shields, USA (Ret)

Army Defies Odds in Meeting Recruiting Goal. The recruiting goal the Army set for FY2006 looked daunting as the year began. After falling 6,000 short of its 74,000 goal for FY2005, the Army raised the bar to 80,000 for FY2006. They began the fiscal year last Oct. 1 with only 12% of that goal “banked” in the delayed enlistment program, compared to 25% a year earlier. Further, Congress didn’t enact needed new bonus incentives until January, more than three months into the fiscal year. So many - including MOAA - had doubts whether the new goal was attainable. Even earlier, we were concerned enough that MOAA signed a memorandum of understanding with the Army to encourage MOAA chapters to connect local recruiters with willing potential prospects. While there may not be unanimity on how our forces are used, supporting a strong national defense is a core MOAA value - and you can’t sustain that without strong recruiting and retention programs to maintain the force.

But the Army met the challenge by adding over 1,300 recruiters since 2005 and expanding various criteria to widen the prospect pool. So we congratulate the Army and the other services, all of whom met or exceeded their active duty recruiting goals. Nevertheless, other numbers offer reasons for legitimate concerns for FY2007 and beyond. First, only two of the six Reserve components met their goals. The Navy Reserve missed the mark by the largest margin, enlisting 87% of its goal. The Army Reserve enlisted 95% of goal (still, an improvement over last year’s 92%). The Army National Guard narrowly missed with 99% — still a big upgrade from 80% last year. Second, the Army had to pull out virtually all available stops to get the job done.

- **Recruit Quality:** Defense Department quality standards are that 90% of entrants should have a high school diploma, and 60% should score above average on armed forces aptitude tests. This year, only 82% of Army recruits had diplomas, and 61% met the aptitude test standard - down from 92% and 72%, respectively, since 2004.
- **Enlistment Standards Adjustments:** The Army raised its maximum enlistment age first from 35 to 40 in January 2006, then to 42 in June 2006 and increased waivers for previous restrictions on tattoos, legal infractions, etc.
- **Increased Bonus Budgets:** Enlistment bonus costs jumped from \$166M in 2005 to \$238M in 2006. Reenlistment bonus expenditures for FY2006 may exceed \$650M - vs. an average of \$120M for FY2000-2004. If reenlistments drop among overstressed service members and their families, recruiting goals will have to get even bigger.

So while it’s good news that the Army met its recruiting goal, the not-so-good news is that service leaders had to stretch every

available tool to do so. And some trends - particularly on recruit quality - pose significant concerns for the future. To further examine the future of the All-Volunteer Force, MOAA is hosting a Military Professionals Symposium on Thursday, November 16, 2006 from 1-3 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. In cooperation with the National Defense University Foundation, experts from the Administration, Congress, the Pentagon, National Defense University and the national media will discuss whether the country can sustain the All-Volunteer Force in an extended conflict. For more information or to register online for this free event please visit MOAA’s Web site.

**MOAA Members Inundate Congress** With almost three months left in the year, we’ve already generated 18% more messages to Congress through MOAA’s Web site than in all of 2005 – 367,000 vs. last year’s 310,000. That’s still well short of the record 493,000 messages in 2002 – the year of the first major concurrent receipt breakthrough. And it certainly doesn’t represent the totality of MOAA-generated correspondence to the Hill. First, those are just the messages we can count on our Web site. Second, we know from counts obtained from Hill offices that MOAA members also sent legislators an estimated 120,000 tear-out TRICARE letters (from the Feb. Military Officer magazine) and another 250,000 tear-off postcards (from the April (TRICARE) and September (SBP) magazines). Another 6,000 phone calls were placed through MOAA’s Capitol Hill Hot Line. What were the hottest topics this year? Here’s the breakdown of the most popular email messages:

- #1: 127,000 opposing TRICARE fee increases
- #2: 64,000 pushing SBP fixes
- #3: 56,000 opposing Medicare/TRICARE payment cuts
- #4: 53,000 supporting concurrent receipt fixes
- #5: 38,000 supporting active duty program improvements
- #6: 33,000 supporting Guard/Reserve program fixes

The only issue remaining on the table this year is #3, Medicare/TRICARE payment cuts, which we’re pushing Congress to address when it returns for a “lame duck” session in November. We still have an **active alert** on that issue on MOAA’s Web site. – **RJS**

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BG Paul Smith  
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## Help Our Troops

Thank you, thank you for the extraordinary response with Christmas cards and note cards. Money came along with the annual dues just in time for Christmas shopping for our adopted unit. While our young men and women continue to protect us, let us continue to support them. Halloween candy was packed along with other stuff this month. I'm buying items for the holidays now and could sure use some Christmas sweets. Happy Thanksgiving and thank you again for all your donations. Carolyn Shields



## Welcome our new Members

Mrs. **Vera Lee**, Auxiliary Member - AF  
Page 32, 2006 Directory

LTC Norton "**Bill**" L. Billington, USA (Ret) (Rose)  
5101 Huntington Circle, N E, St Petersburg, 33703  
727 526-6375, binflnow@att.net

## 2006 Help Our Troops Donors

Lt Col Carroll Andrews	Mrs. Anne Isley
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Mrs. Beth Fenstermaker	MAJ Elmer Rowe
Lt Col Laurance Fernald	Mrs. Louise Rozecki
LCDR J. Paul Finley	Mrs. Madeline Secor
Maj Gen Paul Fratarangelo	COL Roger Shields
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CAPT Thomas Harrow	Mrs. Elsie Tugman
Col Charles Hetherington	Lt Col Ronald Wildes
Capt Elizabeth Hoffman	Mrs. Frances Williams
Mrs. Elly Hunt	Mrs. Martha Willis

## Nominations for 2007

Recommendations of the St Petersburg Area MOAA Nomination Committee for the Slate of Officers for the Year 2007.

### Board of Directors

**President** CAPT **Don Freese**, USN (Ret)  
**1<sup>st</sup> VP** Lt Col **Larry Fernald**, USAF (Ret)  
**2<sup>nd</sup> VP** LTC **Janice Mogan**, USA (Ret)  
**Secretary** Mrs. **D Kay Benson**, AuxMbr-AF  
**Treasurer** Maj **Peter Dawson**, USAF (Ret)

### Executive Advisory Board

(Term Expires 31 December 2007)  
Lt Col **Dick Koch**, USAF (Ret)  
Lt Col **Gary Gilchrist**, USAF (Ret)  
CAPT **Bob Eynatten**, USN (Ret)

(Term Expires 31 December 2008)  
Col **Bill Eisenhart**, USAF (Ret)  
COL **H. B. Love**, USA (Ret)  
Col **Sam Palmer**, USAF (Ret)

## 2006 Scholarship Fund Donors

Mrs. Rosemary Arnim	Col John Flint MajGen Paul Fratarangelo
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Col Carl Bowley	LCDR Frank Johnson
LCDR Charles Brink	LT Jacob Kelly
CWO4 Basil Burrell	Col William Lofgren
Col Edward Caton	LTC Marie Lorence
Mrs. Marjorie Christy	COL Heilbron Love
Maj Emery Cormier	Col Christian March
LCDR Martha Cormier	LCDR Hazel McGrath
Maj Peter Dawson	LTC Janice Mogan
Mrs. Jacqueline D'Louhy	COL Landy Nelson
LCDR Alfred Dyson	Col Albert Neville Maj Gen Earl Peck
CAPT Richard Edwards	Mrs. Louise Rozecki
Lt Col Fred Edwards	Mrs. Madeline Secor
Col William Eisenhart	Mrs. Violet Smith
CAPT Robert Eynatten	COL Margaret Stafford
Mrs. Beth Fenstermaker	LTC Marion Steinhilber
Lt Col Laurance Fernald	

In accordance with the Policy Book nominations from the floor were open at the October 20, 2006 membership meeting. The members present accepted the slate as announced by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee Ballots will be enclosed in the November newsletter, together with the return address of the Chapter. The Nominating Committee members are: CAPT Tom Harrow, USNR (Ret), Mrs Violet Smith, Carolyn Shields. The Canvassing Committee is Col Al Neville and WO4 Basil Burrell. They will count the votes for each office and certify the results of the election at the Annual Membership meeting December 15, 2006. The Oath of Office will be administered to all elected officers at the Installation of Officers to be held this year at a 5:30 PM dinner meeting at the Treasure Island Yacht & Country Club January 19, 2007.





# TAPS

Col **Richard D. Lee**, USAF (Ret)  
May 29, 2006  
Page 32, 2006 Directory

## President - from Pg 1

First, the name change allows MOAA to market a “Brand Image” to all Military Officers at all stages of their careers, not just retirees. MOAA has aggressively sought out Officers from the original sources, ROTC, OCS and the Service Academies to each stage of active duty and beyond. MOAA has opened an Office in the Pentagon and has gotten involved with programs such as Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and The Officer Placement System (TOPS) that has netted over 6,000 new active duty members since 2003. TOPS has been so successful that the last 2 MOAA sponsored Career Fairs resulted in a \$250,000 profit to MOAA.

Second, women are becoming increasingly important just like the 4<sup>th</sup> RTB at Parris Island and the 20% at the Service Academies and the Military. Many in MOAA are women officers but the vast majority are spouses and auxiliary, surviving spouses. It is interesting that neither national MOAA nor your chapter tracks gender in their databases so I do not know how many national MOAA spouses there are but there are 67,000 national auxiliary members. The only way you can tell gender is by looking at first names and guessing whether the person is a man or a woman. Counting names in our database our chapter show that there are approximately 98 auxiliary, all women, and approximately 198 spouses, all but three are women.

I am sure you have all heard the saying “behind every good man there is a good woman.” That may still be true but in today’s society it is equally true that “behind every good woman there is a good man.” In the Military and MOAA it is equally true that “beside every good man there is a good woman. Many thanks to all the good men and women who volunteer their time and talent to make national MOAA and our chapter successful and “One Powerful Voice” for all military men and women.

## Sick List

(Contact LCDR **Hazel McGrath**, 545-3884)

\* 1Lt **Robert L. Alvarez**, USMC (Ret)  
6070 80th St, N, #401, St Petersburg, FL 33709

\* LTC **Richard H. Natzke**, USA (Ret)  
530 59th Ave, St Pete Beach, FL 33706

\* Lt Col **Charles R. Hedrick**, USAF (Ret)  
12136 Kay Dr, Seminole, FL 33772

\* LCDR. **Hazel McGrath**, USN (Ret)  
5725 80th St, N., Ivy Bldg, #102, St Petersburg, 33709  
(Hazel is much improved as she made the October Luncheon!)

Your cards, prayers and thoughts are welcome.

## November Birthdays (56 to 97 years)

Day	L NAME	F NAME	RANK	SVC
26	Arnim, Rosemary,		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
02	Bihn, Lois		Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
22	Blatt, Donald		LTC	USA (Ret)
21	Brauner, Clarence		COL	USA (Ret)
22	Christner, Alan		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
17	Cowsert, Mary		Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
18	Cruse, Charles		CPT	USA (Fmr)
11	Dollahon, Jack		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
16	Dwyre, G.Thurman		Col	USAF (Ret)
17	Flint, John		Col	USAF (Ret)
08	Flynt, Gertrude		Mrs.	AuxMbr
13	Hallden, Charles		LTC	USA (Ret)
01	Hansen, George		CPT	USA (Fmr)
17	Hedrick, Charles		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
21	Keene, Cecil		2LT	USA (Ret)
09	King, Monroe		CAPT	USN (Ret)
05	Lorence, Marie		LTC	USA (Ret)
03	Maratos, Stanley		Col	USAF (Ret)
16	Milford, John		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
12	Nolan, Richard		Col	USAF (Ret)
06	O’hern, Luther		Col	USAF (Ret)
26	Penny, John		LCDR	USNR (Ret)
03	Redman, Albert		BG	USA (Ret)
21	Sears, Claire		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
27	Taylor, Dorothea		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
13	Vaughn, Sidney		RADM	USCG (Ret)
27	Walters, Barbara		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
07	Wilson, Marc		CDR	USCG (Ret)

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## BALLOT

### ELECTION OF 2007 OFFICERS

Complete & bring to our November 10<sup>th</sup> luncheon meeting, or mail to the chapter P. O. Box.

President: CAPT **Don Freese**, USNR (Ret)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres.: Lt Col **Larry Fernald**, USAF (Ret)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.: LTC **Janice Mogan**

Secretary: Mrs. **D Kay Benson**, AuxMbr-AF

Treasurer: Maj **Pete Dawson**, USAF (Ret)

#### Executive Advisory Board

(Term Expires 31 December 2007)

Lt Col **Dick Koch**, USAF (Ret)

Lt Col **Gary Gilchrist**, USAF (Ret)

CAPT **Bob Eynatten**, USN (Ret)

(Term Expires 31 December 2008)

Col **Bill Eisenhart**, USAF (Ret)

COL **H. B. Love**, USA (Ret)

Col **Sam Palmer**, USAF (Ret)

I ACCEPT THE SLATE AS LISTED \_\_\_\_\_;

I accept the slate **except** as indicated \_\_\_\_\_:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LUNCHEON MEETING

**11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• **Reservations by Wednesday November 8<sup>th</sup>**

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Each reservation \$10:**

Roast Turkey: \_\_\_\_\_.

Stuffed Flounder: \_\_\_\_\_.

\*\*\* **CLIP and MAIL, with check to SPMOAA,**

to=> **CAPT Bob Eynatten,**  
**507 Plaza Seville Ct, # 16**  
**Treasure Island, FL 33706**

For late reservations, call either:

**CAPT Bob Eynatten 360-4637**

or

**CAPT Don Freese 360-3102**

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

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

## CALENDAR

**November 10<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00 (2<sup>ND</sup> FRIDAY)**  
COL Scott Brumbaugh, Cmdr, 6<sup>th</sup> Operations Group,  
Election of 2007 officers. (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of month)

**December 15<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** Christmas program

**January 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 17:00** Installation, Treasure  
Islands Yacht & Country Club, ASD, Reserve Affairs,  
RADM Tom Hall

**February 16<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** TBA

**March 16<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** TBA

**April 20<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** TBA

**November 6<sup>th</sup>** Monday;  
**December 4<sup>th</sup>** Monday;  
**January 8<sup>th</sup>** Monday (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday);  
**February 5<sup>th</sup>** Monday;  
**March 5<sup>th</sup>** Monday;  
**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** Monday;

### ROWC

**Luncheon** – (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday) 11:30, lunch 12:30  
• **Reservations:** LTC Rose Munchbach 397-4146  
• **Membership:** Martha Willis 579-4116.  
• **14 NOV 2006** The Dolphin Inn, 4800 Gulf Blvd, St. Pete  
Beach. **Program:** Fashion Show by Golden Sands.  
• **12 DEC 2006** St Pete Yacht Club 11 Central Ave Avenue,  
St. Petersburg **Program:** Faith Presbyterian Church Choir  
• **9 JAN 2007** My Big Fat Greek Restaurant - 4300 Park  
Blvd. Ppk. **Program:** The Rose Place. Flower arranging.  
• **13 FEB 2007** - Isla Del Sol - Yacht and Country  
Club.6000 Sun Blvd. St. Pete. **Program:** Dot Phillips as  
Dolly Madison.

**Bridge** – (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month) 10:00 AM  
Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park.  
• **Reservations:** Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272, or  
Margaret Peck 525-1688

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