

# OFFICERS CALL

## ST. PETERSBURG AREA CHAPTER,

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



**VOL V No IV ★★★★★ Five Star Chapter : 2000, 2002-05 ★★★★★ April 2007**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up** 2005 Electronic Media; **Winner** 2003 Print & Electronic Media & Web Site

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CAPT Don Freese, USN (Ret)

Every month I try to write something that is both of interest to our readers and relative to the events of the day. So far I have been lucky that something happens that I think satisfies both requirements.

The March 2007 MOAA Military Officer magazine featured "War Posters, vintage images helped mobilize our nation" and our allies to fight the 1930 and 1940's version of the "Global War on Tyranny" that we all know was World War II.

The same Military Officer magazine also asked the question? "One percent, why do so few choose to serve?" This one percent is today's men and women in uniform fighting the current "World War" that we all know is the "Global War on Terror."

Last weekend Sherry and I had the pleasure of hosting, along with MOAA member Joan Landers and her friend, Pam Lanier, four female U.S. Naval Academy Midshipman. They were part of the 47 member Naval Academy Gospel Choir that gave up their Spring Break to perform in numerous Florida churches (I know for all of us "old" service academy alumni Spring Break and Florida were not in our vocabulary.)



Although not yet in combat the four Midshipman are part of the one percent and all four want to be Marine Corps Officers. They were enthusiastic, and optimistic about the future and young, just like 48 of the 50 Marines I met on the Delta flight in January. They too are old enough to serve but not old enough to be served a drink.

**President, continued on Pg 7**

### NOAA "Hurricane Hunter" Aircraft View of Hurricane KATRINA's Eye heading for New Orleans!

Let's pray that we never see anything like Katrina again but isn't it nice to know that NOAA's Aircraft Operations Center (AOC) aircraft, located at MacDill AFB are out there watching out for us!

AOC is commanded by our April 20 speaker, Captain Philip Kenul, NOAA.

Make your reservations early as the April 20 meeting will be both timely and very interesting.

Let's also pray that Captain Kenul's NOAA "Hurricane Hunter" presentation can bring the same good fortune in 2007 that Hurricane Weatherman Dick Fletcher brought us in 2006.

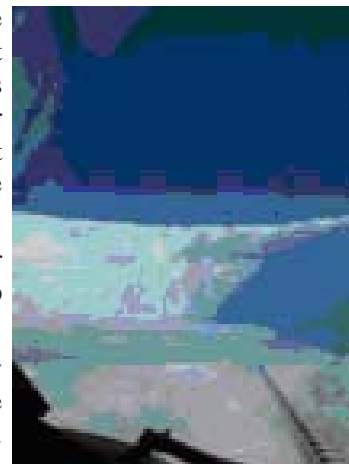
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Aircraft Operations Center (AOC) was born 1961 as the U.S. Weather Bureau's National Hurricane Research Project with four aircraft and included project "Stormfury" the unsuccessful attempts to "seed" hurricanes to reduce their intensity.

President, Richard M. Nixon created the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in 1970 with aircraft operating from Miami International Airport.

In the early 1990s the aircraft, today consisting of 12 fixed-wing aircraft (including two amphibians) and 2 helicopters were moved to the Aircraft Operations Center (AOC) at MacDill AFB.

AOC aircraft operate throughout the United States and around the world. Over open ocean, mountains, coastal wetlands and Arctic pack ice to help to describe and predict changes in the Earth's environment and to conserve and manage wisely the nation's coastal and marine resources. AOC's specialized aircraft directly support this mission by providing scientists with unique platforms to precisely observe, measure and chart the dynamics of our oceans and our atmosphere.

Please make your reservations early to welcome Captain Philip Kenul, NOAA as our speaker April 20.





### Officers Call

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

AND Life Members Emeritus AND Past Presidents

### Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 329  
 Regular Members - 241  
 Auxillary Members - 88

#### Military Services:

Army - 85                      USMC -16  
 USAF - 78                     USCG - 8  
 Navy - 53                      NOAA - 1

3/16/07

## From the Editor

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



• **Free Advertising** – President Don Freese had an idea to encourage contributions for the support of those organizations which support projects of interest to our chapter such as HOT and the Scholarship Fund. We would place an advertisement for the contributing organization in *Officers Call* at no expense to the contributor. An example is the recent ad for a local Bridge Club. This month we will award a free ad to Walgreens, a company which has provided many items for our troops at significant discounts. Their interest in our project is truly impressive and Carolyn provides them with updates and vignettes such as the impression made on the local Afghani population by the gifts of Beanie Babies to their children. Please see the letters of gratitude from our troops elsewhere in this issue of *Officers Call*.

• **Your Money is At Risk** – A “popular” stand to take by the Department of Defense and some clueless legislators is to try to save money by attempting to cut benefits and reduce the pay of members of the military, both active duty and retired. The conventional wisdom among these “solons” is a perception that we are relatively few and that we don’t vote in any numbers that might scare them into pandering to us. This attempt by Congress to save money occurs every year regardless of what political party is in power. Our defense is our support of The Military Coalition which is comprised of over 35 veteran’s and active duty military members associations which acts to educate our elected and appointed legislators and officials on our behalf. They can’t act alone and do the job of influencing legislators without our help. When MOAA prints a suggested message to our Congressmen in their monthly magazine, the least we can do for ourselves and other veterans is to **sign** the messages and **mail them** to Congress. **RJS**

## Notice: Proposed change to our Bylaws.

The Executive Committee has proposed to modify our Bylaws that would clarify that the chapter's membership year is the calendar year with the month of January as a grace period. This change is to be voted on at the April 20, 2007 General Membership Meeting. Proposed change:

### Proposed new Section 2 (Article III, Dues)

**Section 2.** Annual dues are payable by December 31 of each year. Members who fail to pay dues by that date shall be dropped from the membership rolls, although they may be reinstated if they pay their dues by January 31. Other former members dropped from the rolls for nonpayment of dues may be reinstated to membership upon payment of current dues following approval of the Executive Committee of such reinstatement.

See “**Your Annual Dues**” on page 6, 2007 Directory. It has more information on dues and our dues renewal program. See page 56 for a membership application.

**Questions or comments:** Fred Edwards, 727-360-2936, or Don Freese, 727-360-3102.

## The USCG in Libya WO4 Basil Burrell, USCG (Ret)

Arriving in Naples Italy on my way to Matratin Libya, I was put up in the Grand Hotel facing the Bay of Naples. Now I tell you this was a fancy joint. Nothing like the Motel 6 or even the Holiday Inn to which many of us are accustomed. I was escorted to my room by the bell man and shown the facilities which included two, that is right, two toilets. Only one of them did not have a seat. Remember, back in the 1950's us poor Americans had never seen a "bidet." Even today they are not all that common. I was duly impressed with this fancy bathroom fixture for which I could not think of a use.

The nice hotel deal only lasted for one night. The next day after a very good American style breakfast, I was picked up and given a room near the NATO headquarters in Naples that were nice but definitely not in the Grand Hotel style to which I would have liked to become accustomed.

After some processing in the personnel department I was given a day to get squared away and prepare for departure. Next day I was driven to the airport to meet the C-123 airplane that the Coast Guard used to fly supplies to our facilities in the Mediterranean area. Our first stop was at Wheelus AFB in Tripoli Libya, but between Naples and Wheelus we flew through some bad weather and were hit by lightning. The guys driving the plane thought to have some fun and told me to put on a parachute in case we had to abandon ship. I told them I would just as soon take my chances on going down with the plane. They thought it was funny. I didn't. We picked up some stuff at Wheelus to take to the Coast Guard Loran-C Station at Matratin, Libya and then continued on our way.

Now in the late nineteen fifties, a lot of WWII buildings and airstrips were still common in Libya. In fact, the dry desert air preserved stuff you wouldn't think of, even tank and tire tracks across the desert. About 12 miles east of the Coast Guard Station was a WWII airstrip that had not been maintained and did not have Air Control or fire fighting facilities. The air strip was within easy distance of a large monument called Marble Arch. This monument is a tall arch that spans the coastal highway and marks the boundary between Libya's two northern provinces, Tripolitania to the west and Cyrenaica to the east. It commemorates the deaths of two brothers who legend says killed each other at the spot. This is all surrounded by desert and our plane set down and we were met by a 2-1/2 ton truck and a weapons carrier that had been liberated from army service. After unloading the aircraft, we pro-



ceeded to the station accompanied by the pilots who left the air crewmen to guard the plane. They were armed. The pilots visited for a while and then returned to their C-123 and left Libya. I stayed and so did the other poor souls who were assigned there for a year stay.

The Coast Guard Station in Libya was about 450 miles east of Tripoli and 250 miles west of Benghazi Libya. Most of the villages between the two large cities are small and inhabited by native Arab people. There were a very few Italians left over from the Italian occupation prior to WWII. At that time Libya was a monarchy ruled by King Idris from Tripoli.

My duties were: executive officer, engineering officer, commissary officer, exchange officer, crypto officer and whatever else could be thought of. I got to be familiar with a lot of stuff. The real drag was commissary officer because we dealt in Italian lire, Danish krona and Libyan pounds plus US dollars to purchase food. At the end of every month it all had to be reconciled and a complete inventory made of supplies on hand.

My major responsibility was engineering officer because our reason for being was Loran-C transmissions. For the electrical plant and water desalinization, we had a Chief Engineman and Electrician Mate (E7 for landlubbers) and they did their duties with minimal directions. Being a transmitting station we had a number of Electronic Technicians to maintain and operate the Loran-C equipment. We had one PO1 Commissary man assigned and he had a young Libyan man whose name was Hussein to help him.



Altogether with seamen and engineering department people we had about 25 personnel. We had excellent radio communications equipment and were constantly in touch with other Loran Stations with Headquarters in Naples. Loran-C signals were transmitted from a 625 foot top-loaded tower by 3 Megawatt peak transmitters. The transmissions were time by rubidium atomic clocks. We had 3 large diesel driven electric generators for power.

We read often of the problems with the desalinization plant that Tampa Bay Water is having in Tampa. We too had a problem when we tried to get our raw water from a well. The well water caused too much scaling in the machine. We had to run a pipe to the Mediterranean sea to get sea water for our plant.

We had a lot of freedom to explore the desert and found that many artifacts from WWII were well preserved. Including land mines. The major oil companies were exploring for oil and hired

**Libya, continued on Pg 10**



## Luncheon Meeting; 16 March 2007

Reported by **Basil Burrell**

**Attended—64:** Members—32, AuxMbrs-9; Wives—15, Guests—5, Walk-ins—3, No shows—(3), Cancellations—(0)

Surprise! Surprise! The attendance at today's luncheon and our monthly program was larger than expected. Maybe because of our scheduled speaker, CAPT Elizabeth Pepper USCG. Our President Don Freese opened the program with a welcome to all who attended today. He asked our Chaplain George Brown to deliver the Invocation and then led us in the pledge and salute to our colors. Don then welcomed a new member CDR Mike Vision USN (Ret). Don tells us that Mike was his boss back in the old days when everyone was young and hirsute. Don claims he learned all his bad habits from Mike. I'm sure he is just kidding us! Don then called for the door prize drawing and then the equity distribution.

We are asked to dispose of old Directories by shredding them or bring them to the next meeting where they can be collected for safe disposal. Remember that the Directory contains information that could be used to your disadvantage if it falls into the hands of an unscrupulous person. The Scholarship fund being held by MOAA national in our name is on track to reach the \$25,000.00 mark at which time scholarships will be given in our Chapter's name. We could use a little help with the Booster Fund which is

designed to help defray the cost of publishing and mailing our newsletter, Officers Call.

The HOT lady, Carolyn Shields, reported that she has received two more letters from troops in Afghanistan. They really appreciate the candy and any mail they get. I understand the Fred Edwards is happy that Pauline has parted with some of her Beanie Baby collection for the edification and pleasure of our warriors in that far-away land.

Next months speaker will be the head of the NOAA hurricane hunters at MacDill AFB. Larry Fernald rose to introduce our guest speaker CAPT Elizabeth Pepper USCG who is the Deputy Sector Commander for the Coast Guard's Florida West Coast Sector. She gave a very interesting and entertaining power point and verbal presentation about the activities and responsibilities of the Coast Guard on the west coast of Florida area. CAPT Pepper told us of some of her experience in the Coast Guard since joining and attending OCS in Virginia.

Asked, "What is the Coast Guard" she replied that the definition she was given was "The hard nucleus about which the Navy is formed in time of war." To me this was the highlight of the day. After other questions of a more serious nature, CAPT Pepper closed her presentation and was presented with a set of tumblers with MOAA and St. Petersburg Area Chapter engraving. Don then asked George Brown to deliver the Benediction and the meeting ended at 1300 hours. **Basil**



CAPT Beth Pepper, Deputy Sector Commander, St Petersburg



Our LCDR Matt Poage, USNR is spreading the word about MOAA and our chapter to members of local reserve units.



Joan Landers, the chairperson for Advertising

**Receive Officers call by e-mail**



Roger and Carolyn Shields

Their twelfth anniversary today, March 16



Ron Wildes & Mike McDonough



Bob & Bronnie Polk



Hank Curran



Charles Hundley



Dottie & CJ Brauner



Mike Vision rejoins, Don Freese, Tom Harrow



Ed Diedo & Anne Isley

**Officers call in brilliant color**



## HOT - Help Our Troops - HOT Letters from Afghanistan

Announcing that 225 boxes shipped to the troops thus far is a nice way to gauge the progression of HOT. The real reason and we hope yours too, is to try to imagine the looks on our troopers faces knowing that we, our membership and others support our young men and women in Afghanistan. Please continue to Help Our Troops. We need each other. See you at the next luncheon. (Need lip balm and packaged cookies.) See the letters of appreciation below. **Carolyn Shields**



- Dear Carolyn,

I am just writing to thank you. It was very kind of you, and it is nice to know people still support what we are doing over here. Because of your generosity you have brought a little piece of home to some lonely soldiers. Many of us are away from wives, kids, family. I know that I miss my wife and hate it because she is pregnant with my first child and I am missing it. You showing your appreciation makes everything my family and I are going through totally worth it. Thank you from the bottom of our heart.

Sr Airman Fullmer Matthew

- Dear Mrs. Shields, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Thank you for the gifts you sent, they are very much appreciated as well as enjoyed. It is good to be reassured that there are still those who support what we do. Rest assured that the goodies will not go to waste. I hope you have a wonderful day and feel good about yourself for doing such a selfless deed.

Sincerely, Airman First Class Clark

## Officers Call Booster Fund

The Officers Call Booster Fund was started several years ago to help offset the rising costs of printing and mailing Officers Call (OC) to our members, friends, supporters, legislators and local military commands. \$1,200 was donated last year.



It currently costs \$1.20 to mail each Officer Call. 12 editions are mailed each year costing \$14.40 per person mailed. You can see that pretty much eats up most of our \$15 Auxiliary and \$20 Officer annual dues.

The only technical thing that we can do to decrease printing cost is to give up the color front and back pages. We hope that we will not have to do that as we think it is important to have some color; we would like more.

The big cost savings is to convert as many people to electronic Officers Call (OCe) or web Officers Call (OCw.) Many converted in February which decreased our printing and mailing costs by over \$100.

Our technical people, Al Neville and Larry Fernald, have done a wonderful job producing OCe and OCW as well as setting up "Google Mail" so that there is no cost for OCe and OCw. Both are easily downloadable even with dial up connections. OCe and OCw are both in full color.

Most people have color printers that can be used to print in full OCe or selected pages of interest (meeting meal reservation form) in full color that is better than the mostly black & white paper OC. Plus you get OCe and OCw delivered at least a week before OC. We ask you to try OCe if you have Internet capability. A sign up sheet will be at each meeting or you can email request for OCe or OCw to: [webmanager@MOAAStPeteArea.com](mailto:webmanager@MOAAStPeteArea.com)

Also please continue to support the Officers Call Booster Fund again in 2007. We need your help to keep our dues low and maybe we can raise and save enough money with OCe and OCw that we can go to a full color printed OC for those members with out Internet capability? **Don Freese, President**

### 2007 Help Our Troops Donors

Mrs. Ann Barton  
WO4 Basil Burrell  
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COL Bert Couture  
Mrs. Peg Cowardin  
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LTC Ed Diedo  
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CAPT Tom Harrow  
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LCDR Hazel McGrath  
LTC Janice Mogan  
COL Landy Nelson  
Col Al Neville  
Maj Gen Earl Peck  
Col Stew Palmer  
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CW4 Herb Tondreau

\$1,055 as of 03/16/07

### 2007 Officers Call BOOSTER Donors

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CAPT Tom Harrow  
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\$270 as of 3/10/07

### 2007 Scholarship Fund Donors

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CAPT Tom Harrow  
COL Landy Nelson  
Col Al Neville  
Col Stew Palmer

Maj Gen Earl Peck  
Col Hal Roberson  
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\$941 as of 3/28/07

### Donated through MOAA National

LCDR Paul Finley  
Mrs. Delores Foutz  
CAPT Tom Harrow

## THE BUZZ

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

• **Afghanistan** – A recent email from a member of the Air Control Squadron indicated that their unit was now at double strength while many had their tour of duty extended. Reading the newspapers and following the TV commentators, we see that a Taliban offensive is expected sometime this Spring which accounts for the apparent reinforcement of American troops. As I recall from two tours in Iran, Spring brings two weeks of sand storms which make flying difficult or impossible in Afghanistan as well as in Iran and Iraq. We can only pray that all goes well with our guys and gals. Let's also continue to support HOT. According to their letters, they are truly appreciative of HOT, not only for the goodies we send but also for thinking of them.



Convention 2007 – Our May cruise to the Bahamas and the MOAA Florida Council Convention are just what we need to dispel the Winter blues and look forward to beach weather. We hope that you've signed up for the cruise because we would miss your happy presence otherwise. If you don't have a current passport, bring a birth certificate and your military ID card. If you need an application, phone Roger at 727 392-4323 or email at

[rshield1@tampabay.rr](mailto:rshield1@tampabay.rr).

• **Our Monthly Luncheons** – Where could you get a three course meal which is served to you at a table where your friends are sitting – for only \$11.00? If you wish to have a wine or something stronger, the large glass of wine is only \$3.00! In reading other chapter newsletters, we found that most charge \$16 - \$28 for a luncheon meal. Eleven dollars to see your friends, have a good meal, coffee and dessert for a more than an affordable price. We hope to see you there! **RJS**

### President, from Pg 1



All American Generations have depended on their Military Men & Women to earn and defend our way of life but since World War II the percentage "choosing to serve" is less than the generation before. Ninety nine percent (which we are part of) need to know that one percent is all that stands between them and International Terrorism.

The "One Percent" that choose to serve cannot speak for themselves. That is why Military Coalition Associations are so important. We are part of the 99 percent who have served and must speak for the one percent serving now.

MOAA national is a premier spokesman for our Military and together with 417 Chapters is "One Powerful Voice." Your membership in both MOAA national and the St. Petersburg Area Chapter is important and makes that "One Powerful Voice" loud enough to be heard!

God Bless Our Troops! **Don**

## The JROTC Programs

### CAPT Tom Harrow, USN (Ret)

The St. Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA sponsors four Pinellas County Junior ROTC (JROTC) programs. Dixie Hollins, Gibbs, Boca Ciega and Admiral Farragut Academy JROTC programs teach discipline, scholarship, teamwork, and the willing-



ness of students to complete tasks confronting them. Studies have shown that students who participate in JROTC are more likely to earn higher grades, participate in competitive sports, and graduate from high school.

Each year a county-wide JROTC competition is held with each JROTC school competing in marching, drill team exercises, academics, team and individual sports. Admiral Farragut Academy and Boca Ciega High School honored our chapter by a presentation of colors at the 2006 Florida Council of Chapters Convention and the 2007 January Installation of Officers. Other JROTC drill teams marching this year will be:

Admiral Farragut Academy, pass in review on May 18 at their school football field at 1:00 PM.

Gibbs High School, pass in review on April 24 at 10:00 AM.

Dixie Hollins High School, school auditorium evening ceremony on April 18 at 7:00 PM.

Boca Ciega High School, school auditorium April 11 at 11:00 AM.

The officer in charge of each JROTC program has issued an invitation to any interested MOAA member to attend their annual awards ceremonies. Please contact Tom Harrow, 727-367-9050, or Don Freese, 727-360-3102, if you are interested in attending any ceremony.



Rose Munchbach, Barbara Walters, Peg Cowardin



## Executive Committee Meeting St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA; 5 March 2007

Reported by D Kay Benson, AuxMbr-AF

The meeting was called to order by President Don Freese, at 11:30 am. Don led us in the Invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Eighteen (18) members were in attendance: H.B Love, Matt Poage, Stew Palmer, Larry Fernald, Don Freese, Earl Peck, Basil Burrell, Tom Harrow, Bob Eynatten, Roger Shields, Paul Finley, Hazel McGrath, Al Neville, Violet Smith, Dick Koch, Bill Eisenhart, Janice Mogan and D. Kay Benson.



Minutes of February 5, 2007 were approved as printed in the Officers' Call.

Don reported 19 "Give Me 10" for 2006 resulting in \$310. So far we have 2 for 2007. The 2007 Convention Delegates will be Fred Edwards, Janice Mogan, Earl Peck and Al Neville. The 2008 Installation Banquet will be held January 19<sup>th</sup> and the speaker will be DASN Lynda Davis. Roger will chair the Memorial Service to be held May 19<sup>th</sup>. D.Kay will contact the surviving relatives. Don announced that D.Kay will be responsible for the name tags in the future. Al moved to change our December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting to December 14<sup>th</sup>. It was seconded by Violet Smith and the motion carried. Don read the proposed By Law Change: Change annual dues payable by December 31<sup>st</sup> from January 31<sup>st</sup>. Earl moved with Larry seconding that this By Law change be accepted. Motion carried. Earl requested a round of applause for Al and his excellent work on the 2007 directory. The Naval Academy Gospel Choir will be at Pasadena Community Church 11 am Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Larry reported that all is going well with the Electronic Officers' Call. Discussion was held about electronic mailing of the directory. Many wanted hard copies as references. Larry, Al and Don will check into the costs of mailing the directory and report back to the board. Violet will man a table giving out 2007 Directories at the March Luncheon. March speaker will be CAPT Beth Pepper, USCG. April speaker will be Captain Philip Kenul, NOAA Aircraft Ops MacDill. May speaker will be MAJ Jay Herbert, USARNG and the Memorial Service. June will be CDR Michael Henderson, NOAA, (Ret). Suggestions for future speakers were made.

Janice is continuing her new member drive and is writing thank-you notes to new member as they join. The Treasure's Report was read by Don and approved as read. Don had copies of the proposed budget but the print was too small for us to read. It was tabled until next meeting. Don requested more ads for the OC.

Roger reported that the HOT boxes once again fill his living room. Troop size has double so the need is even greater. Several expressed disappointment in the MOAA National magazine article concerning our HOT program.

Tom discussed the need for Thank you notes to individuals who give donations to the Scholarship fund. Tom will give donation information to Al so it can be included in the OC. We need \$3,400 to make our \$5,000 goal for 2007. It was suggested that the Scholarship Fund would make a good program for the August meeting. Tom showed pictures of the JROTC awards and requested an article in the OC. The Commanding Officers of our JROTC will receive the OC electronically.

Stew requested an article in the OC explaining MOAA donations, mailed to whom with address, how check should be made out, etc. Hazel read the sick list and reported that shut-ins enjoy reading the OC. Violet is helping relatives understand the many Military benefits. Immunization for shingles is now available at MacDill Hospital. You need a script from your doctor. Hours are 0700 – 1600, closed some Wednesday. Call before you go; 813-827-9376. A MOAA chapter visitation and presentation will be made by Violet in April in Savannah GA. Violet requested that we continue to write and call our legislators. Earl stated his position on the Installation Banquet. Many agreed with him. It is a Celebration and should be "Special" and different from our normal meetings. Please call Pauline Edwards if you have concerns about traveling to the Convention Cruise. Matt is working on Reserve contacts.

At 1300 President Freese said the Benediction and then adjourned the meeting.



**Thank You**  
*for your commitment  
and dedicated service  
to your country.*



**BAY  
PINES**  
Federal  
Credit  
Union



## Welcome our new members!

**Mrs Jo Ann Redmann**, Auxiliary Member - Army  
Page 44, 2007 Directory

CWO3 **Mel A. Glynn, Jr.**, USA (Ret) Shirley  
Page 26, 2007 Directory

Col **John F. Hunter**, USAF (Ret) Sue  
Page 29, 2007 Directory

### Feb. 2007 Financial Report

#### Income:

Dues	\$195.00
Boosters	\$231.00
Luncheon	\$1,070.00
Ads	\$240.00
Misc-Give me 10	<u>\$310.00</u>
<b>Total income:</b>	<b>\$2,046.00</b>

#### Expenses:

Banquet Masters	\$930.00
Newsletter printing	\$296.30
Supplies	\$0.00
Post Office	\$4.25
VA/JROTC	\$0.00
Fla Dept of Revenue	\$70.00
Nonrecurring	\$357.85
(Elvis imitator 250, installation 107.85)	
Memorials to Sch Fund	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Total expenses:</b>	<b>\$1,658.40</b>

**Cash flow:** \$387.60

#### Scholarship Fund

Feb 1 balance (deficit)	(\$125.00)
Donations	\$540.00
Memorials	\$0.00
Expended	<u>\$0.00</u>
Feb 28 balance	\$415.00

#### HOT

Feb 1 balance	\$1,673.39
Donations	\$527.30
50/50	\$55.00
Expended	<u>\$546.57</u>
Feb 28 balance	\$1,709.12

Cash available in bank **\$4,751.80**

Pete Dawson, Major (Retired) USAF  
Treasurer

## April Birthdays

(61 to 91 years)

Day	L Name	F Name	Rank	SVC
05	Alderson, John		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
06	Andrae, William		LTC	USA (Ret)
11	Bax, Giles		COL	USA (Ret)
09	Bowley, Carl		Col	USAF (Ret)
16	Brink, Charles		LCDR	USN (Ret)
13	Caton, Edward		Col	USAF (Ret)
20	Christy, Marge		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
27	Cushing, Arthur		WO	USCG (Ret)
13	Fee, Doris		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
25	Flynn, Martin		CAPT	USN(Ret)
22	Gaugh, Jane		Mrs.	AuxMbr-N
09	Gilchrist, Gary		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
01	Green, Richard		CWO	USA (Ret)
14	Gudmundson, Brent		LTC	USA (Ret)
21	Hermann, Peter		Col	USAF (Ret)
14	Hofacker, William		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
28	Holecek John		LTC	USA (Ret)
16	Johnson, Marjorie		Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
29	Kelly, Jacob		LT	USNR (Ret)
07	Koch, Richard		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
29	Menyhert, Louisa		LTC	USA (Ret)
18	Newton, Richard		Col	USAF (Ret)
16	Oster, Evelyn		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
17	Piercy, James		COL	USA (Ret)
04	Probeck, Marion		Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
30	Pynn, Frances		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
22	Reed, John		Col	USAF (Ret)
19	Reilly, Anne		Mrs.	AuxMbr-N
07	Sartorio, Salvatore		Maj	USAF (Ret)
07	Shields, Roger		COL	USA (Ret)

### BASIL'S EXCELLENT PHOTOS

If you would like a copy of your photograph in this issue (electronic file), contact Al Neville at 727 522-5685 or [www.nevil45@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:www.nevil45@tampabay.rr.com).

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October 2006



## MOAA Legislative Update

**March 23, 2007**

### Budget Resolution on TRICARE Fees,

### Concurrent Receipt, SBP

This was a critical week for several of MOAA's top legislative issues, as the House and Senate took up their respective versions of the FY2008 Budget Resolution.

### House/Senate Champions Introduce SBP Bills

Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) and Rep. Henry Brown (R-SC) re-introduced their bills to end the deduction of VA survivor benefits from Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) when the death was service-caused. Nelson's bill also would implement 30-year paid-up SBP coverage this year.

### Concurrent Receipt News

Concurrent receipt champion Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) has introduced a new concurrent receipt bill, and MOAA's Col. Mike Hayden (USAF-Ret) provided an extensive concurrent receipt briefing to the Veterans Disability Benefits Commission.

### MOAA Talks TRICARE Fees With Hill Staffers

Staff members from more than two dozen senators' offices attended this week's MOAA briefing on Pentagon-proposed TRICARE fee hikes.

USE THE OPPORTUNITY BELOW:

Member feedback is very useful, so please continue to email us your suggestions and comments at the address below.

[legischat@moaa.org](mailto:legischat@moaa.org)

## St. Petersburg Bridge Club

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### Libya, from Pg 3

former German soldiers from WWII to help them locate and defuse the old mines. We had a lot of visitors from oil company people, U,S Army Corps of Engineers, British Army and Royal Marines and of course the occasional Libyan official. We even had a couple of young people riding bicycles visit once.

Matratin did not have a village but about 4 miles west of the station was a small village that was known as Wadi Benjuad. Wadi means a dry watercourse. There was a restaurant cum beer joint ran by an old lady who was left over from the Italian occupation. And of course, she was called "Mama Rosa." Our station cook actually ate a meal of sauteed goat there after he had had a few "Three Horses brand beers. The meal came complete with some goat fur at no extra charge. None of the rest of us were that hungry. Camel meat was a luxury and on rare occasions there would be a camel carcass hung up with flies all over it and people could buy hunks of meat for their dinner. Macaroni was a staple of the diet for the Libyan people in our area. There was no source of fresh water or electricity so the government would send water trucks to fill barrels along side the road. Propane gas was used to power the few refrigerators such as at Mama Rosa's.



On several occasions I was invited to enjoy tea with the guards in their tents. Tea is called "sha hee" and is served in something like a shot glass and is served very sweet. It is palatable but takes some getting used to. Coffee is less frequently served and the name is KaWaa or something close to that sound.

I recently found that one of our members used to land his Corps of Engineers plane at our old airstrip. Ron Merritt told me how he remembers some of the things such as Marble Arch which defines the boundary between two Libyan provinces, and an old Roman city Leptis Magna east of Tripoli. In antiquity Libya was a rich province of Rome and although much of the country had gone to desert, it has a lot of interesting places Most of the people in the Matratin area are bedoins. They live in tents and subsist on herding goats and have some camels. The desert flora is small scrub grass or weeds. The fauna are rabbits, gazelles, scorpions and snakes. Not much else. Finally the happy day marking one year came and I met the C-123 at the airstrip near Marble Arch and made my way home via Milan and Frankfurt. Happy Days Are Here Again!

**Basil**

**Receive Officers call by e-mail**



# TAPS

**BG Albert J. Redman, Jr.** USA (Ret) 3/7/07  
Page 39, 2007 Directory

Mrs. **Doris Fontana**, Spouse 3/15/07  
LT Ray Fontana, USN (Fmr) Page 25, 2007 Directory

## Sick List

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

- \* **1Lt Robert L. Alvarez**, USMC (Ret)  
Page 15, 2006 Directory
- \* **LTC Richard H. Natzke**, USA (Ret)  
Page 36, 2006 Directory
- \* **Mrs. June Simon**, Auxiliary Member - A  
Page 41, 2006 Directory
- \* **Mrs. Jeanne Hawkins**, Auxiliary Member - AF  
Page 28, 2006 Directory
- \* **Col John E. Hunter**, USAF (Ret)  
1308 Pasadena Ave, S, Villa # 8, S. Pasadena 33707
- \* **CDR William E. McCormick**, USN (Ret)  
Page 34, 2006 Directory
- \* **LtCol Russell E. Blagg**, USMC (Ret)  
Page 17, 2006 Directory
- \* **Mrs. Mickey Blagg**, Spouse  
Page 17, 2006 Directory

Your cards, prayers and thoughts are welcome.

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July 2006

## LUNCHEON MEETING

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, April, 20<sup>th</sup>  
Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• Reservations by Wednesday April 18<sup>th</sup>

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

Each reservation \$11:

Ham: \_\_\_\_\_.

Tillapia Piccata: \_\_\_\_\_.

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

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

**For late reservations &/or a RIDE,**  
**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

**April 20<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** Captain Phil Kenul CO,  
NOAA aircraft operations, MacDill AFB.

**May 18<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** Memorial Service and  
MAJ Jay Hebert, USA, Islam and Terrorism.

**June 15<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** CDR Michael Henderson,  
NOAA (Ret)

**July 21<sup>st</sup>, Friday, 11:00** TBA

**August 17<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** MOAA Scholarship  
Program

**September 21<sup>st</sup>, Friday, 11:00** TBA

**Need a ride to lunch?**

**Call CAPT Bob Eynatten, 360-4637**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday;**  
**May 7<sup>th</sup> Monday;**  
**June 4<sup>th</sup> Monday;**  
**July 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday;**  
**August 6<sup>th</sup> Monday.**  
**September 10<sup>th</sup> SECOND Monday.**

## ROWC

- Luncheon** – (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday) 11:30, lunch 12:30
- Reservations: LTC Rose Munchbach 397-4146  
Membership: Martha Willis 579-4116.
  - **10 APR 2007** Treasure Island Tennis & Yacht Club 400  
Treasure Island Causeway, Program: Fashion Show by  
Inspirational Elegance of Indian Rocks
  - **8 May** at Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd. PPk, Program:  
Audubon Society Slide Show & the ROWC Installation.
  - **Summer recess**-June through September

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**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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