



# OFFICERS CALL

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



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

## President's Comments:

Our program speaker in June was MAJ Michael Alvis, USAR. He is the Commander of F Company, 5-159th Aviation Regiment, the first Army Reserve MEDEVAC, unit since 1995. The unit is getting ready for deployment. We will definitely help them with packages from home via our HOT program but they have requested our help now. Anita Harrow, Violet Smith and a new member to the Auxiliary, Martha Schoepner, are forming a focus group to look into all aspects of how we could best support this Company of service men and women. We have given them a verbal promise of aid in this their time of need.



They are restricted from asking for monetary support but could and would seek voluntary support by creating their own Family Readiness Group (FRG). Mrs. Brandy Alvis is the FRG leader. Brandy recently sent an email entitled "the ways we need help." She said that the FRG was in need of financial support, but there are many other ways that would benefit them..

They will hold a Family Fun Day on August 15, 2010. It will be held in the area of the Aviation Support Facility at 16100 Fairchild Road at St Pete/Clearwater Airport, in Clearwater. Everyone is welcome to attend. This is a great way for us to

**See President, Pg 3**

### INSIDE:

Calendar and Contact List .....	Page 2
Executive Committee Minutes .....	Page 4
Legislative Update .....	Page 5
Meeting Minutes and Photos .....	Page 6-7
Birthdays .....	Page 9
Donations .....	Page 9 11
Financial Statement .....	Page 10
New Members .....	Page 11
Taps and Sick .....	Page 11
August Luncheon Reservation .....	Page 12

## Defense Biometric Identification System: What YOU need to know about DBIDS...

The Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) is a physical access control system that is used by the Department of Defense (DOD) to manage personnel, property and installation access. The DBIDS program registers and maintains a database of ALL Department of Defense identification card or common access card holders requiring access to an installation and is currently installed at 27 DOD installations in the continental United States. ALL personnel will include active duty, reservists, civilians, contractors, dependents, retirees, and visitors. During registration, DBIDS will capture and store your digital photograph and biometrics. Once you are registered, a hand-held device that scans the bar code on the Department of Defense identification card will allow the gate guard to view personal identifying information and whether or not you are authorized to enter the base. If you are required to register in the DBIDS program at an installation, you will be told where to go to register by the gate guard. Some installations using DBIDS have experienced difficulties registering some of the older Teslin cards (blue retiree, red reserve, etc) because of the way the data in the barcode was stored. If you are required to register in DBIDS and have one of these older cards, you may need to have a new Teslin ID card issued. Children under the age of 10 that have not yet been issued a DOD dependent ID card may be issued a DBIDS card if required by the installation.

The registration process has already begun at MacDill and can be done at the Visitor Reception Facility outside the main gate.

Some Frequently asked questions:

*If I show up without being registered will I be denied entry?*

Initially no. DBIDS will be gradually integrated into day to day operations, but eventually DBIDS will become mandatory for base access. Once mandatory, you will be redirected to the Visitor's Center for registration.

*Will I have to register at each installation?*

No once registered at one base, you can enter any base within the region that you have permission to enter without re-registering.

**See DBIDS, Page 3**



# Officers Call

Print Media Winner- 2006

Print Media 1st Runner-Up - 2008



*Officers Call* is published monthly by The St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA, Inc. P.O. Box 7054, St Petersburg, FL 33734. Articles in *Officers Call* are the sole opinion of the authors and do not necessarily reflect policies or opinions of the publisher. Mailed as third class mail at the Manasota Post Office, Permit #1533. Printed by Creative Technology of Sarasota, Inc.

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

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### DIRECTORS

**President- MAJ Ed Lillich, USA (Ret) ..... 546-2246**  
 1<sup>st</sup> VP- LTC Terry Carr, USA (Ret) ..... 392-6524  
 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising ..... CDR Bill Bolin, USNR ..... 584-1595  
 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  
 Chaplain ..... COL George Brown, USA ..... 866-6859  
 Chaplain Ass't ..... Capt Charlene Sanders USAF .... 894-6050  
 Data Base ..... Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF ..... 522-6237  
 Electronic Info ..... Lt Col Larry Fernald USAF ..... 522-6237  
 Historian: ..... LTC Marie Lorence, USA ..... 595-1342  
 HOT ..... Mrs Anita Harrow, AuxMbr-N .. 367-9050  
 JROTC ..... MAJ Ed Lillich, USA ..... 546-2246  
 Law: ..... CAPT Don Freese, USN ..... 360-3102  
 Legislative: ..... CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG ..... 393-4160  
 MacDill Liaison ... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Master at Arms .... CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG ..... 821-7365  
 Membership ..... CAPT Don Freese, USN ..... 360-3102  
 Memorial ..... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Newsletter ..... CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG ..... 393-4160  
 Nominating Cmte Col Bill Lofgren, USAF ..... 528-3946  
 Personal Affairs ... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Programs ..... LTC Terry Carr, USA ..... 392-6524  
 Publicity: ..... Mrs. Chris Lillich ..... 546-2246  
 Reservations ..... CDR Bill Bolin, USNR ..... 584-1595  
 ROWC Liaison .... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Scholarships: ..... 1LT Hazel Murphy ..... 347-5195  
 TOPS ..... COL Carol Barnes, USA ..... 381-2334  
 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 - 307  
 Regular Members - 212  
 Auxiliary Members - 95  
 Inactive Members - 8

### Military Services:

Army - 69                      USMC - 15  
 USAF - 72                     USCG - 7  
 Navy - 49                      NOAA - 0

7/19/2010

**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.

## CALENDAR

**August 20<sup>th</sup>                      MG Robert J Kasulke, MD, USAR**

**September 17<sup>th</sup>**

**October 15<sup>th</sup>**

**November 19<sup>th</sup>**

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

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

**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.

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>                      Monday**

**September 7<sup>th</sup>                Tuesday**

**October 4<sup>th</sup>                    Monday**

**November 1<sup>st</sup>                Monday**

## ROWC

### Luncheons:

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

**Bridge:** (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month) 10:00 AM

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park.

- Reservations or Information: Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272

**Having trouble reading the *Officers Call*?** Have a home computer?

**Did you know** that if you were to subscribe to the *Officers Call* via email that you could, using your computer, easily enlarge the pages and even selectively print out a page or more? Or, just read or print it all out in color!

To subscribe to the electronic version of *Officers Call*, and save valuable funds for your Chapter, call me at 727-522-6237.





**President from Pg 1**

show support. Brandy would welcome suggestions for this and other activities to take place for the troops. Don Freese will be there to promote the Council and I the Chapter. Two of our Chapter, members John and Martha Schoeppner, have volunteered to prepare and serve the food for this event, but deserts are still needed. Brandy is looking for a full emersion “dunk tank.” Don Freese intends to bring his swimsuit! Does anyone know of the availability of such a tank? The pie throwing event should bring a crowd.

I plan to attend FRG planning meeting on Saturday July 31st for this and other events to take place in the immediate future.

Brandy has written general areas where they will require volunteers and support:

\*Breakfast table at any drill with proceeds going to the FRG. (Especially in September when they have a PT test)

\*Family and Soldier training and education Coordinator

\*Pie throwing Coordinator

\*Contributions Coordinator (the only way we can say donations) to work together or as one with...Prize Drawing Coordinator

\*Craft Activity table for younger children

\*Bounce house monitors (we will have one jump house for very little kids and one for older kids. We need to monitor that the bigger kids stay out of the younger kids bounce house.)

\*Make invitations for family day (tri-fold with the address areas on the outside, can be mailed by USA at no cost to the FRG). Required ASAP.

\*Serve food at family day, John and Martha

\*Dessert donations for family day

Brandy Alvis will answer your questions at 727-480-4975.

Our Chapter can do this with your help. Let us get involved. I will see you there on August 15, 2010.

**DBIDS from Page 1**

*Why do they take fingerprints? Do I have to give my fingerprint to get on base?*

During increased threat conditions, commanders may require fingerprints be integrated into base entry procedures as an extra anti-terrorism measure.

*When is DBIDS coming to MacDill AFB?*

The registration phase has already begun. SF members will start using the DBIDS hand-held's at the gates in July 2010. You are highly encouraged to avoid the registration rush and get registered as soon as possible.

*Will I need to be registered for access to local Coast Guard installations?*

No The Coast Guard does not use DBIDS to manage access to their facilities.

**Coast Guard Celebrates 220th Birthday**

The United States Coast Guard, one of the country’s five armed services, is a unique agency of the federal government. It’s history goes back to 4 August 1790, when the first Congress authorized the construction of ten vessels to enforce tariff and trade laws and to prevent smuggling. Known variously through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as the Revenue Marine and the Revenue Cutter Service, it expanded in size and responsibilities as the nation grew.

The service received its present name in 1915 under an act of Congress when the Revenue Cutter Service merged with the Life-Saving Service. The nation then had a single maritime service dedicated to saving life at sea and enforcing the nation’s maritime laws. The Coast Guard began to maintain the country’s aids to maritime navigation, including operating the nation’s lighthouses, when President Franklin Roosevelt ordered the transfer of the Lighthouse Service to the Coast Guard in 1939. In 1946 Congress permanently transferred the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation to the Coast Guard, thereby placing merchant marine licensing and merchant vessel safety under their purview.

The Coast Guard is one of the oldest organizations of the federal government and, until the Navy Department was established in 1798, it served as the nation’s only armed force afloat. It continued to protect the nation throughout our long history and has served proudly in every one of the nation’s conflicts. It’s national defense responsibilities remain one of our most important functions even today. In times of peace it operate as part of the Department of Homeland Security, serving as the nation’s front-line agency for enforcing our laws at sea, protecting the marine environment and our vast coastline and ports, and saving life. In times of war, or at the direction of the President, it serves under the Navy Department.

**Exchanges Offer ‘Bag Credit**

Army & Air Force Exchange Service-operated retail facilities are encouraging shoppers to bring their own reusable bags through its “Use a Bag, Save the Planet” initiative. Shoppers that use their own bags will get five cents back for every reusable bag used. The five cent credit applies only to shoppers who bring in and use reusable shopping bags (plastic bags do not apply). Customers who simply decline a plastic bag, but do not utilize a reusable bag, will not qualify for the five cent credit. MacDill AFB does participate in this program. There are signs posted at the entrance explaining the procedure.

**COLA Fizzling?**

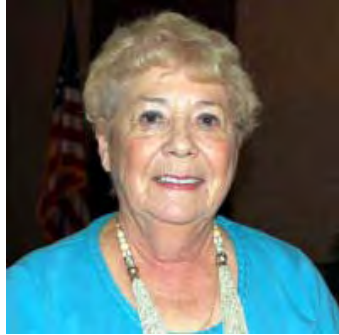
Inflation dropped 0.1% in June. Unless that trend is reversed significantly in the next three months, prospects are dimming for any retiree COLA in 2011.





## Executive Committee Meeting St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA; 5 July 2010 Reported by Chris Lillich, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Ed Lillich at 1130 hours. Chaplain George Brown gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ed. Fourteen members were present including: Bill Bolin, George Brown, Basil Burrell, Terry Carr, Pete Dawson, Fred Edwards, Larry Fernald, Don Freese, Anita Harrow, Chris Lillich, Ed Lillich, Bill Lofgren, Johnnie Neville, and Earl Peck.



**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** There being no additions or corrections to the minutes, motion was made by Larry Fernald, seconded by Fred Edwards, that minutes be approved as printed in the O.C. Motion Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Pete Dawson reported that the balance in the operating account is \$8,220.99. Earl Peck moved that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented, seconded by Larry Fernald. The full Treasurer's report is found elsewhere in the O.C.

**First Vice President's Report.** Terry reported on the speakers for July and August.

**HOT** Anita Harrow and committee sent out 46 boxes in June for July delivery to the troops at a total cost of \$857.83. Supplies for the mailing came from items purchased and donated, in addition to the contributions from Wesley Chapel which were picked up by Bill Bolin and Bill Lofgren. An additional 26 boxes were packed and will be mailed later this month at a cost of \$420.48, including cost of mailing and purchase of some necessary items. Due to low funds in the HOT program Anita made a motion to reduce the monthly mailing to periodic mailings, as deemed appropriate by the HOT chairperson effective August 2010 through July 2011. The motion was seconded by Earl Peck and after further discussion motion passed. A motion was made by Don Freese that the \$30.00 currently going into the scholarship fund in memory of deceased members be given to HOT. Seconded by Earl Peck, Motioned carried.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Reservations:** Pete Dawson made a motion that the Executive Committee rescind the previous policy of charging no-shows for the luncheon. Motion was seconded by Bill Lofgren and after discussion the motion passed.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Give me Ten:** Don Freese reported on the current status of the GMT program and was happy to announce that the F.C.O.C. won for the most members in the 2nd quarter of 2010 and will be receiving a check for \$1,000.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Larry Fernald, seconded by Anita Harrow to hold the installation of new officers and directors on Saturday January 22, 2011. Ed Lillich will check out venues and report his findings at the next Executive Committee meeting. Don Freese, President of the F.C.O.C. will be asked to be the installing officer.

A motion was made by Larry Fernald, seconded by Bill Lofgren to add another Commander to the list of honorary members. After discussion Fred Edwards moved to table the motion until next meeting, seconded by Earl Peck. Previous motion was tabled.

A letter will be sent to all the spouses of regular members inviting them to join our Chapter as auxiliary-spouse members.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

President Lillich read a letter from Frank Johnson thanking and complimenting the Chapter on the May memorial service.

Ed thanked Larry Fernald and Don Freese for all the work they continue to do for the Chapter.

There being no further business George Brown gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 1245 hours. The next board meeting will be Monday, 2 August, 2010.

---

*Honor our veterans and show your gratitude by attending the first annual*

# USF Veterans Day Ceremony

***SAVE THE DATE:***

*Wednesday, November 10,  
2010*

*Marshall Student Center*





## MOAA Legislative Update

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

### Concurrent Receipt, War Spending On Table

Congress returned from Independence Day recess to face a daunting stack of unfinished legislation - including several bills of major importance to the military community.

And they only have a three-week window for action before starting the month-long August recess.

The hottest defense “iron in the fire” is the 2010 war supplemental appropriations bill. Last month, we reported Defense Secretary Gates’ concern over the lack of progress on H.R. 4899, which passed the House on July 1. Gates told the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee that, unless the supplemental funds are provided in August, the Pentagon would need to begin furloughs for civilian employees and curtail pay for active duty personnel.

This concern prompted MOAA to send a letter on June 17th to Congress urging passage of the war supplemental appropriations bill prior to the July recess. The Senate failed to act before the July recess and they are now expected to take up the bill next week. However there’s a major flap between the House, the Senate, and the White House over non-defense issues in the bill (most notably a funding proposal to prevent large layoffs among teachers) that threatens to delay essential war funding.

Help expedite the process by sending your senators a MOAA-suggested message asking them to quickly pass the war supplemental.

Another major issue on next week’s Senate agenda is H.R. 4213, the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010, which includes an extremely important provision that would phase out the VA disability offset to military retired pay for severely disabled medical (chapter 61) retirees.

If the Senate passes it next week, which seems likely, it will have to go to the House for one last vote. While we don’t want to “count our chickens” just yet, we’re hopeful that prospects for meaningful concurrent receipt progress are looking better than they have in two years.

Unfortunately, Senate action on the Defense Authorization bill (S. 3454) - which often entails hundreds of amendments and a week or two of debate - appears to be a “bridge too far” before August recess. The House passed its version, H.R. 5136, in late May, but it looks almost certain that Senate action will have to wait until September.



## New Grave Markers For Private Cemeteries

From Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (6/29/10) — Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki announced June 29 that the Department of Veterans Affairs is offering bronze medallions to attach to existing, privately purchased headstones or markers, signifying a deceased’s status as a veteran.

“For veterans not buried in a national or state veterans cemetery, or those without a government grave marker, VA is pleased to offer this option that highlights their service and sacrifices for our country,” said Secretary Shinseki.

The new item can be furnished instead of a traditional government headstone or marker for veterans whose death occurred on or after Nov. 1, 1990, and whose grave in a private cemetery is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

Under federal law, eligible veterans buried in a private cemetery are entitled to either a government-furnished grave marker or the new medallion, but not both. Veterans buried in a national or state veterans cemetery will receive a government headstone or marker of the standard design authorized at that cemetery.

The medallion is available in three sizes: 5 inches, 3 inches and 1 ½ inches in width. Each bronze medallion features the image of a folded burial flag adorned with laurels and is inscribed with the word “Veteran” at the top and the branch of service at the bottom.

Next of kin will receive the medallion, along with a kit that will allow the family or the staff of a private cemetery to affix the medallion to a headstone, grave marker, mausoleum or columbarium niche cover.

More information about VA-furnished headstones, markers and medallions can be found at <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hm/hmtype.asp>.

VA officials are developing an application form for ordering the medallion. Until it is available, applicants may use the form for ordering government headstones and markers, VA Form 40-1330. Instructions on how to apply for a medallion are found on the VA website at [www.cem.va.gov/hm\\_hm.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/hm_hm.asp).

Veterans with a discharge issued under conditions other than dishonorable, their spouses and eligible dependent children can be buried in a VA national cemetery. Other burial benefits available for all eligible veterans, regardless of whether they are buried in a national cemetery or a private cemetery, include a burial flag, a presidential memorial certificate and a government headstone or grave marker.

The new medallions will be available only to veterans buried in private cemeteries without a government headstone or marker. Families of eligible decedents also may order a memorial headstone or marker when remains are not available for interment.

---

See Grave Markers Pg 8





## Monthly Luncheon; 16 July 2010

Reported by **Basil Burrell**

**Attended – 0:** (0 reservations), 0 Member Guests, Chapter Guests, Walk ins 0  
[0 Cancels, 0 No-show]  
*Information not available at this time*

Our president MAJ Ed Lillich, USA (Ret), called on us to be seated at 1145 hours to begin our monthly luncheon meeting. Since Chaplain George Brown was not here, Ed asked us to stand for the Invocation to be given by Assistant Chaplain Capt Charlene Sanders, USAF (Ret). Charlene did a magnificent job. We remained standing and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to our Country and Flag.



Ed welcomed everyone and acknowledged the rather small crowd because of the July doldrums.

Ed asked the wait staff to go ahead and serve the salads so we could start the meeting. Ed recognized new members; Mrs. Margaret Peck, where have I heard that name before, Lt Col Dolores Myers USAF (Ret), Maj Gen John and Martha Schoeppner, USAF(Ret) and Jeff Timberlake USCG. He also welcomed back COL Frederick Terry, USA(Ret).

Ed introduced the head table. In addition to the usual suspects; Terry Carr, Charlene Sanders and Ed Lillich himself, our speaker LT Ryan Dilkey USCGR.

Door prize drawing was won by Paul Finley. Penny Eisenhart won a box of chocolates donated by Larry Butterfield of Kilwin's in John's Pass. Penny generously gave them to Hazel McGrath. Sherry Freese and Bill Eisenhart each won a box of chocolates. The 50/50 drawing was won by Jean Jessup. Because of the relatively small group, there wasn't a lot to be distributed today.

Ed Lillich mentioned that HOT Chairperson Anita Harrow couldn't be with us today. HOT is doing well and sending a lot of goodies to the troops.

Don Freese got the floor and wanted to take it home with him. Ed kept him under control however. Don says the membership drive, Give Me Ten, is going well and we received a check for \$1,000.00 FCOC.

Don introduced a new topic: Defense Biometric Identification System and, of course, an acronym to go with it DBIDS. It is designed to increase security at military bases by limiting access to authorized personnel. We will all be required to have our personal data entered into a data base which can then be checked when you enter a military base. It is thought that this will not increase the time required to pass through security.

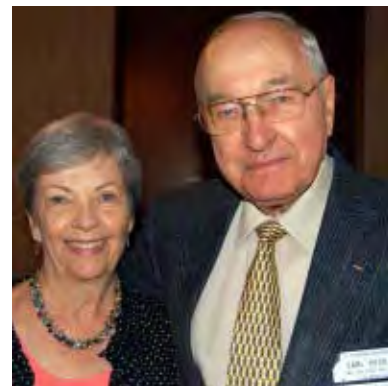
LTC Terry Carr, USA(Ret) introduced our featured guest speaker, LT Ryan Dilkey USCGR. LT Dilkey is an Eckerd College Staff member and is the coordinator of the EC-SAR (Search and Rescue) program. The program was started in 1971 in an effort to provide safety services for the college's watersports activities. Over the years the program has expanded to extend services to the Tampa Bay boating community. Today, student members coordinate the utilization of four rescue boats through an operations/communications center located at the college waterfront. EC-SAR is a highly motivated group of volunteer students who are not paid, nor do they receive academic credit for their participation. LT Dilkey opened the floor for questions and answers.

Upon completion, Ed presented LT Dilkey with the traditional gift of engraved glasses.

Charlene gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned.



Fred Edwards and Don Freese



Margaret and Earl Peck



Hazel McGrath





Terry Carr introducing guest speaker



LT Ryan Dilkey receiving gift from Ed Lillich



Jeff Timberlake USCG



Marie Lorence and Canadian visitor Marlene Jones



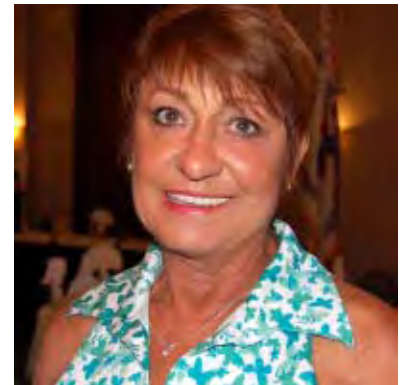
Joanne Taylor, Janice Mogan and Hattie Hunt



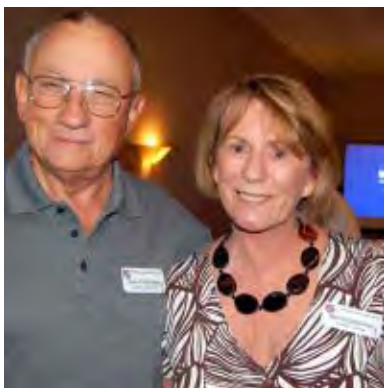
Natalie and Dick Oliver



Frederick Terry



Dolores Myers



John and Martha Schoeppner



Johnnie Neville and Betty Finley



Sherry Freese and Dot Plummer

Photos by Bill Lofgren





## Grave Markers from Pg 5

The VA operates 131 national cemeteries in 39 states and Puerto Rico and 33 soldiers' lots and monument sites. More than 3 million Americans, including veterans of every war and conflict — from the Revolutionary War to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan — are buried in VA's national cemeteries on more than 19,000 acres.

Information on VA burial benefits can be obtained from national cemetery offices, from the VA website at [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov) or by calling VA regional offices toll-free at 1-800-827-1000.

## Working Retirees Win Access to TRICARE Option

Tom Philpott, Military.com, June 24, 2010

Civilian employers of military retirees once again can offer a TRICARE supplemental plan with their cafeteria-style health insurance options so that workers who elect to use their TRICARE Standard benefit can buy coverage conveniently and with pre-taxed dollars.

The change took effect June 18 under a final rule published by the Department of Defense that implements a 2007 law prohibiting employers from enticing retirees to use TRICARE instead of employer-paid insurance.

The final rule relaxes an interim regulation unveiled two years ago. Employers still are prohibited under section 707 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 109-364) from offering incentives to military retirees to leave employer-paid plans and use TRICARE instead.

For example, they can't subsidize a TRICARE supplement. They also are barred from offering cash incentives exclusively to military retirees if these workers will elect to opt out of employer-paid health plans.

But advocates for working-age military retirees, backed by Sens. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) and Ben Nelson (D-Neb.), had complained that the interim rule published in March 2008 created unnecessary hassles for military retirees in second careers and denied them a valuable tax break.

Defense officials agreed.

Under the final rule, which employers can find in the April 9 Federal Register, DoD exercises an exception allowed under the law. Employers once again can make available in their cafeteria-style health plans a TRICARE insurance supplement as long as retiree participants cover the full cost.

Jeff Halseth with Government Contractors Insurance Services (GCIS), an insurance brokerage that sells benefit plans to government contractors, said the revised rule will help working-age military retirees.

"The important thing now is to inform retirees that they can get a TRICARE supplement through their employer again," said Halseth.

Retirees will want to do that, rather than buy a supplement directly from a broker, Halseth explained, because premiums paid for cafeteria health plans are exempt from federal and state taxes including social security tax. This lowers out-of-pocket costs of a TRICARE supplement by about 27 percent, he said.

Congress acted three years ago to prohibit employers from offering incentives to TRICARE-eligible employees to try to turn around a costly trend. More and more companies, as well as state and local governments, were finding ways to encourage their military retirees to use TRICARE rather than employer-paid health plans. In effect, they were shifting their own health care costs onto federal taxpayers, Defense officials complained.

On reviewing comments received on the interim rule, Defense officials agreed it was only reasonable to permit employers to offer TRICARE supplements if the plans are not paid for, even partially, by employers.

"The employer's only involvement is providing the administrative support for the benefits under the cafeteria plan," said officials in an analysis that accompanied the final regulation. Convenience can be restored to buying supplemental coverage and premiums can qualify for the tax break.

Officials, meanwhile, have lowered their estimate of cost savings to TRICARE from cracking down on employer-paid incentives. The Congressional Budget Office estimated \$119 million in savings per year on the belief that 50,000 retirees and dependents would stop using TRICARE. The revised estimate is only \$64 million.

Halseth suggested the trend will continue. Even if TRICARE were to double annual fees and co-pays paid by military retirees, he said, the number of working retirees relying on TRICARE will continue to rise because using TRICARE is so much less expensive than most employer-paid plans.

"The price of employer plans started sky-rocketing in the late 1990s. It literally doubled between 1999 and 2008," Halseth said. "The cost of employer plans started getting so high for workers that there was a flood of military retirees leaving civilian plans."

The first priority for workers shifted from what benefits were covered to what was affordable, and nothing looked more affordable than their TRICARE. And with each passing year, as TRICARE fees, co-payments and deductibles have remained frozen at levels set in 1995, more working retirees have come to rely on health coverage earned while in service.

Several retirees working in the civilian sector, in commenting on the interim rule for employer-paid plans, complained that their employers misunderstood the law. Some employers, for example, thought they had to exclude TRICARE-eligible employees from accepting the company's cash incentive for any employee who opts out of the employer-paid plan.

"We hope this final rule will eliminate these misunderstandings," officials said.

See TRICARE Pg 9



**TRICARE from Pg 8**

Some retirees said they are upset that Congress acted to lessen the value of the TRICARE benefit by banning employer-paid incentives. The cash incentives had the effect of eliminating all their out of pocket health costs.

These arrangements did save money both for retirees and their employers but “by shifting costs to the former employer, the United States Government and the federal taxpayers,” Defense officials responded.

Despite what some retirees still believe, they added, “under the law, there is no entitlement to free, comprehensive care.”

### 2010 Scholarship Fund Donors (Includes donations to National MOAA)

**Gold** (\$100 & more); **Silver** (\$50-99); **Bronze** (\$1-49)

**••GOLD –**

Barton, Ann Mrs.  
Brown, George COL  
Carr, Terry LTC  
Edwards, Pauline Mrs.  
Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
Freese, Don CAPT  
Isley, Anne Mrs.  
Landers, Joan Mrs.  
Lofgren, Bill Col  
Lorence, Marie LTC  
Love, H. B. COL  
Milford, John Lt Col  
Murphy, Hazel 1LT  
Palmer, Stew Col  
Patton, Jim CWO4  
Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
Sims, Robert Maj  
Smith, Violet Mrs.  
Talbitzer, John LT

**••SILVER –**

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

**••BRONZE –**

Brown, Gary B Gen  
Baney, Eleanor Mrs.  
Christy, Marge Mrs  
Green, Richard CWO4  
Lawson, George Col  
McGrath, Hazel LCDR  
Tondreau, Herb CWO4  
Vitters, Cindy LTC  
Walters, Barbara Mrs.

**Member donations ONLY:**  
**\$2,535 as of 7/19/2010**

**A Hard Night**

Air Force Approach: Eagle 13, turn right to 330.

Eagle 13: Roger 330.

App: Eagle 13, I've been working since last night, Will you do me a favor?

Eagle 13: Affirmative. Go ahead.

App: Down below on your right, you'll see a base house with yellow roof near the lake. That is my house. I had a fight with my Wife, and I'm worried she might take it out on my Harley. Do you see a Harley Davidson near the house?

Eagle 13: Negative sir. Instead I can see a Ryder's truck.

**Chief Petty Officer**

**REAL CHIEFS** think Ensigns should be seen and not heard, and never, ever, be allowed to read books on leadership.

## August Birthdays (58 to 93 years)

Day	LName	FName	Rank	SVC
17	Augustine	John	Col	USAF (Ret)
22	Borrowes	Marja	Mrs.	AuxMbr-CG
21	Brown	Gary	B Gen	USMC (Ret)
06	Christie	Robert	LtCol	USMC (Ret)
25	Dawson	Peter	Maj	USAF (Ret)
13	Fleming	William	LT	USN (Ret)
15	Freese	Sherry	Mrs.	AuxMbr-Spouse
08	Hetherington	Charles	Col	USAF (Ret)
23	Hunt	Hattie	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
08	Lawson	George	Col	USAF (Ret)
22	March	Christian	Col	USAF (Ret)
05	Parsons	Charles	Col	USAF (Ret)
27	Peck	Earl	Maj Gen	USAF (Ret)
02	Roe	Bobbie Jo	Maj	USAF (Ret)
01	Seara	Oscar	Maj	USAF (Ret)
04	Secor	Madeline	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
26	Shutt	Richard	CAPT	USN (Ret)
21	Sims	Robert	Maj	USMC (Ret)
19	Speairs	Thomas	2LT	USA (Ret)
03	Taylor	Joanne	MAJ	USA (Ret)
12	Terry	Frederick	COL	USA (Ret)
03	White	James	COL	USA (Ret)
23	White	Neal	LTC	USA (Ret)
26	Wisner	Charles	LCDR	USN (Ret)
12	Wood	Victor	CDR	USN (Ret)

### 2009 Help Our Troops Donors

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

**••GOLD –**

Barton, Ann Mrs.  
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  
Gilchrist, Gary Lt Col  
Isley, Anne Mrs.  
Jessup, Jean Mrs.  
Kottich, Charles COL  
Landers, Joan Mrs.  
Lee, Bill LCDR  
Lillich, Ed MAJ  
Lofgren, Bill Col  
Lorence, Marie LTC  
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  
Baney, Eleanor Mrs.  
Hunt, Hattie Mrs.  
Lanier, Laurie Maj  
McGrath, Hazel LCDR  
Poteat, Genevieve Mrs.  
Shine, Jack Col  
Tondreau, Herb CWO4

**••BRONZE –**

Lawson, George Col  
Mogan, Janice LTC  
Plummer, Dot Mrs.

**Member donations ONLY:**  
**\$2,319 as of 7/19/2010**





**DEW LUXURY MOTOR CARS**  
DRIVING DREAMS SINCE 1915



**Grant Culverhouse**  
Sales & Leasing Consultant  
46 years at Dew

(727) 822-2019  
Toll Free (888) WILL DEW  
Cell: (727) 460-3109

[www.dewluxurymotorcars.com](http://www.dewluxurymotorcars.com)  
[gculverhouse@dewluxurymotorcars.com](mailto:gculverhouse@dewluxurymotorcars.com)

Thru July 2011

## Banquet Masters

Conference Facilities & Accommodations  
for parties of 30 to 700

All Catered Affairs From 2 to 10,000

WEDDINGS • CORPORATE CATERING

BANQUETS • PICNICS

(727) 541-1582 FAX (727) 546-6258

[www.banquetmasters.com](http://www.banquetmasters.com)

8100 PARK BLVD N. • SUITE 201 • PINELLAS PARK, FL 33781

**Stephen E. Fisherkeller**



## Financial Report Summary for the Month of June – 2010

### Officers Call Booster

..... Balance, Beginning of Month .....	\$ (589.35)
..... Donations .....	\$ 50.00
..... Ad Income .....	\$ 0.00
..... Postage & Printing Expenses .....	\$ (336.50)
..... Balance, End of Month .....	\$ (875.85)

### HOT Fund

..... Balance, Beginning of Month .....	\$ 2,218.69
..... Donations .....	\$ 360.00
..... 50/20 .....	\$ 0.00
..... Expenses .....	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month .....	\$ 2,578.69

### Scholarship Fund

..... Balance, Beginning of Month .....	\$ 2,709.00
..... Donations .....	\$ 125.00
..... Memorials .....	\$ 30.00
..... 50/50 Income .....	\$ 0.00
..... Expended .....	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month .....	\$ 2,864.00

### Operating Account

..... Balance, Beginning of Month .....	\$ 8,383.88
..... Monthly Luncheon .....	\$ 738.00
..... Dues/Give Me 10 .....	\$ 0.00
..... Miscellaneous Income .....	\$ 0.00
..... Interest Earned .....	\$ 3.57
..... Luncheon Expense .....	\$ (650.00)
..... Supplies .....	\$ (10.46)
..... Printing .....	\$ (212.43)
..... Post Office .....	\$ (44.00)
..... Memorial to Scholarship .....	\$ (30.00)
..... Nonrecurring Expense .....	\$ (110.00)
..... Balance, End of Month .....	\$ 8,220.99



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



**BAY PINES**  
Federal Credit Union



**Bring this ad in for a FREE chocolate pretzel!**

**Larry G. Butterfield**  
**Debbie Butterfield**  
Owners / Managers

**KILWIN'S of JOHN'S PASS BOARDWALK**  
160 John's Pass Boardwalk • Madeira Beach, FL 33708  
Phone: (727) 397-9800 • Fax: (727) 397-9802  
Email: [LarryButt@netzero.com](mailto:LarryButt@netzero.com)

### 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

**Ralph O. Settle, Jr., CW2, USAF (Ret),**  
7 July 2010

Our thoughts and prayers are with family and friends.

### 2010 Officers Call BOOSTER Donors

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

#### ••GOLD –

Bischofs, Hennie Mrs.  
Carr, Terry LTC  
Dawson, Pete Maj  
Edwards, Fred LtCol  
Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
Freese, Don CAPT  
Imboden, Cal 2nd Lt  
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 –

Baney, Eleanor Mrs.  
Butler, Mildred Col  
Green, Richard CWO4  
Tondreau, Herb CWO4

#### ••BRONZE –

Lanier, Laurie Maj  
Lawson, George Col  
McGrath, Hazel LCDR

Member donations ONLY:  
\$1,093 as of 7/19/2010

## For Fish, Steak Pasta & Chops We are Tops!

Serving the beaches since 1992



**Breakfast \* Lunch \* Dinner**

Beer • Wine • Cocktails

Happy Hour 5-7 pm

Early Bird Menu 4 – 6 pm

Open 7 Days 7 am - 11 pm

*Voted Best Greek & Best Family Value*

**5799 Gulf Boulevard, St. Pete Beach**

Across Gulf Boulevard, just

North of the SIRATA

**727 360-1029**

Thru June 2010

## Sick List

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

- LTC Sarah Niblack, USA (Ret)
- Lt Col John Milford, USAF (Ret)
- Violet Smith, Aux Mbr
- Lynn Bolin, Spouse



## Welcome Our New Members!

**Lt Col Dolores Myers, USAF (Ret),**  
9409 Laura Anne Drive, Seminole, FL  
33776, (727) 330-6885

**Mrs. Margaret Peck, AuxMbr-Spouse,**  
1466 74th Circle NE, St Petersburg, FL  
33702, 727-525-1688

**Mrs. Shirley Wildes, AuxMbr-Spouse,**  
11800 Park Blvd, Unit 501, Seminole, FL  
33772, 727-391-8932

**Mrs. Dorothy Brown, AuxMbr-Spouse,**  
3875 Cortez Way South, St Petersburg, FL  
33712, 727-866-6859

**Mrs. Ellen Marie Fine, AuxMbr-Spouse,**  
5953 36th Ave N., St Petersburg, FL 33710,  
727-343-8517

**Mrs. Maggie Eynatten, AuxMbr-Spouse,**  
1472 E. Cherry Hills Drive, Chandler, AZ,  
85249, 480-895-5128

**Mrs. Fran Hermann, AuxMbr-Spouse,**  
405 SE Delaware Ave, Unit 310, Ankeny, IA,  
50021, 515-988-0917

**Mrs. Barbara King, AuxMbr-Spouse,**  
7574 Cumberland Ct., Largo, FL 33777,  
727-391-2564





# St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA



## August Luncheon

20 August, 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:**

**MG Robert J Kasulke, MD, USAR**

**Subject: The Army Reserve Medical  
 Command**

MG Robert J. Kasulke is a graduate of Fordham University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in 1971 and earned a Masters in Public Administration from Syracuse University, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Administration in 1996. He earned his degree in Medicine in 1975 and is a graduate of the AMEDD Officer Basic Course, the AMEDD Officer Advanced Course, Command and General Staff College and the prestigious United States Army War College, class of 1999.



MG Kasulke was directly commissioned in the Medical Corps in 1980 following graduation from Medical School while completing a Fellowship in Vascular Surgery. He has served in the U.S. Army Reserve since 1980 and is currently Commanding General of the Army Reserve Medical Command (AR-MEDCOM) in Pinellas Park.

In his civilian career, MG Kasulke has an office-based practice specializing in the medical and surgical treatment of patients who suffer from venous disease. He is board certified in both general and vascular surgery. He is also the Medical Director of the Hospice of Jefferson County.

MG Kasulke is a resident of New York where he resides with his wife Catherine. They have two children, Kristen Hamp and Stephen.

### LUNCHEON MEETING

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, August 20<sup>th</sup>

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• **Reservations by Wednesday August 18<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Each reservation \$12:**

Prime Rib: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Cobb Salad: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* CLIP and MAIL, with check made payable to:

**SPAMOAA**

Mail to

CDR Bill Bolin

1711 Patlin Circle, S

Largo, FL 33770

**For late reservations &/or a RIDE,  
 call either:**

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



### August Events:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: American Family Day
- 4<sup>th</sup>: Coast Guard Day (est 1790)
- 13<sup>th</sup>: International Left Handers' Day
- 15<sup>th</sup>: National Relaxation Day
- 19<sup>th</sup>: National Aviation Day
- 29<sup>th</sup>: Women's Equality Day (1920)

