



# OFFICERS CALL

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



**VOL VI No. XII ★★★★★ Five Star Chapter: 2000, 2002-07 ★★★★★ December 2008**  
**Print Media Winner 2006; Also, 2003 Won: Print & Electronic Media & Web Site!!**

## President's Comments:

As we rapidly approach the holiday season and the end of the year, it is time to take stock of just where we are, not only individually, but as a Chapter.

I'll leave the "individually" part to each of you.

As a Chapter, though, we have made great progress.

Through some recruiting programs conceived and run by Don Freese, with the help of Al Neville (without whose help the effort would have been more difficult) and Janice Mogan, we have 24 new members to our Chapter. Unfortunately, we have lost 10 members, for a net gain of 14 members.

Thanks to the nominating committee comprised of Bob Eynatten, Al Neville, Anita Harrow, and Violet Smith, we have a full slate of energetic and highly competent individuals lined up to lead the Chapter in the coming year.

As a Chapter, we completed our first designated scholarship six months ahead of schedule and started another one. And, with your help and continued generosity, we will complete that one ahead of schedule.

Our Help Our Troops program is back on track and doing great things, thanks to Anita Harrow. And, thanks to your many contributions of all kinds, we are now supporting several Air Force tactical control units in Afghanistan as well as a Marine unit in Iraq, with at least one more unit in the works.

Thanks to Ed Lillich for obtaining great speakers and to Bob and Maggie Eynatten for setting up the facility and meals, as well as keeping track of the finances for the meals, our monthly luncheons are going great. If you have not been to one in a while (or ever, for the majority of you), you really should visit with us at least once and see how much fun we do have.

In spite of all the good things we have done, and there are many, we still have approximately 75% of the folks in our area who are eligible to join the Chapter and have not. We need to reach out to them to join us.

Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah! And a great and safe new year to all of you!

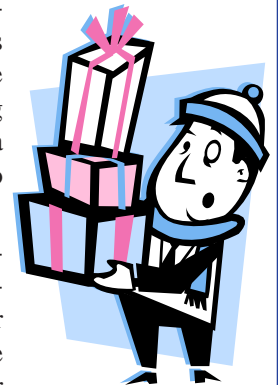


## Our December Luncheon Events:

**Toys for Tots:** Our December luncheon will feature a Marine Corp Reserve Officer to talk about the Toys for Tots program. Following the luncheon, we will be collecting toys to be delivered to the Toys for Tots program. Therefore, please bring a new toy in its original wrapping (no wrapping paper, please) for either a boy or girl--or one for each, if you so wish.

Your generosity will be greatly appreciated by those children who normally would not have anything under the Christmas tree if it were not for the Marine Corps Reserve and its Toys for Tots program.

Let's make a difference in some (a lot of) children's lives!



**Christmas Carols:** We will have a 14 member choral group from Faith Presbyterian Church to sing Christmas carols and holiday songs for our entertainment. All you have to do is sit back, relax, and enjoy the presentation.

**Voting for 2009 Chapter Officers:** December is the month where we elect the Chapter officers for the coming year. To do that, we will hold a vote of those present at the luncheon, plus the mailed in ballots will be counted. Chapter officers will be installed at the Installation Banquet on 17 January at the Hilton in downtown St. Petersburg.

**Paid your 2009 Dues Yet? There are still 85 of us who have not yet renewed. Please do so before the end of the year! If your OC label states "Plz pay 09 dues" you will be delinquent on 31 Dec 2008 unless you pay before then.**



## Officers Call



### Print media winner-2006

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- Consultant-- Col Al Neville, USAF..... 522-5685

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

**President- Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF ..... 522-6237**  
 1<sup>st</sup> VP- MAJ Ed Lillich, USA ..... 546-2246  
 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- LTC Janice Mogan, USA ..... 381-3997  
 Secretary- Mrs. D Kay Benson, AuxMbr-AF ..... 895-5116  
 Treasurer- Maj Pete Dawson, USAF ..... 894-3761

### EXECUTIVE ADVISORY BOARD

#### 2008 —

Col Bill Eisenhart, USAF ..... 526-5088  
 Col Stew Palmer, USAF ..... 343-5022  
 COL HB Love, USA ..... 347-3730

#### 2008 & 2009 —

COL Ron Merritt, USA ..... 397-9809  
 LTC Terry Carr, USA ..... 392-6524  
 Mrs. Anita Harrow, AuxMember-N ..... 347-3730

#### Immediate Past President

CAPT Don Freese, USN ..... 360-3102

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising .....LTC Janice Mogan, USA ..... 360-8549  
 Auxiliary Liaison .Mrs Anita Harrow, AuxMbr-N .. 367-9050  
 Bylaws/Policy Bk LtCol Fred Edwards, USMC ..... 360-2936  
 Chaplain: .....COL George Brown, USA ..... 866-6859  
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 Law: ..... Lt Col Alan Christner, USAF .... 596-3383  
 Legislative: .....CAPT Don Freese, USN ..... 360-3102  
 MacDill Liaison ... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Master at Arms ....CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG ..... 821-7365  
 Membership .....LTC Janice Mogan, USA ..... 381-3997  
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 Nominating Cmte CAPT Bob Eynatten, USN ..... 360-4637  
 Personal Affairs ... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
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 TOPS ..... COL Ron Merritt, USA ..... 367-9809  
 VA Vol Svc .....LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN .... 545-3884  
 Vet Liaison .....LtCol Fred Edwards, USMC ..... 360-2936  
 Visitation .....LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN .... 545-3884  
 AND Life Members Emeritus AND Past Presidents

### Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 333  
 Regular Members - 243  
 Auxillary Members - 90  
 Inactive Members - (4)

#### Military Services:

Army - 80                      USMC -16  
 USAF - 78                     USCG - 10  
 Navy - 58                      NOAA - 1

11/20/2008

**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

**December 12<sup>th</sup>, Friday(Second Friday), 11:00:** Toys  
 for Tots and a Chorus for Holiday Music

--2009--

**January 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, 5:45 PM:** Installation Banquet at the  
 St Petersburg Downtown Hilton

**February 20<sup>th</sup>, Friday:** TBA

**March 20<sup>th</sup>, Friday:** TBA

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

**Call: CAPT Bob Eynatten 360-4637**  
**or Lt Col Larry Fernald 522-6237**

**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.

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

**January 5<sup>th</sup> Monday**

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

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

## ROWC

- **Luncheon** – (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday) 11:30, lunch 12:30  
 Reservations: LTC Rose Munchbach, 397-4146, or Bobby  
 Walters, 595-4619 (luncheons resume in October)
- **Membership:** Martha Willis 579-4116.

**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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 computer?

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To subscribe to the electronic version of *Officers Call*, and  
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## STAYING POWER: WOUNDED MARINES ORDERED TO DO THEIR PART TO RECOVER

By Fred W. Baker, III, American Forces Press Service

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. , Nov. 21, 2008 - Marine Capt. Ray Baronie was traveling in a convoy in Ramadi, Iraq, on Dec. 1, 2005 when an anti-tank round blasted his truck. Baronie's legs were shattered, his body cut and bloodied. His driver was killed. The truck rolled onto its side, and then he was shot at. But really hard times didn't hit until Baronie came back to the United States.

"That's really when hell started. In one year, I had 46 surgeries," he said.

Baronie's right leg was amputated above the knee. He lost major muscle from both legs. He can tap his thigh bone through the skin on the back of his left leg. He now walks with the help of a cane and a prosthetic right leg. Scars cover his arms.

But Baronie's injuries haven't stopped him from stepping in front of a Marine formation and continuing his active duty. In fact, quite the opposite. His injuries have uniquely qualified him to run one of three companies in the U. S. military designed to house and care for seriously wounded Marines.

Remarkably, Baronie was offered the job while he was still in the hospital recovering from his wounds. He now commands 100 or so Marines who make up Company A, Wounded Warrior Battalion East, part of the Wounded Warrior Regiment stood up at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., by order of the commandant of the Marine Corps in April 2007.

"I had to get better because I had to get back to work," Baronie said. "How fast could I get back to work? That's what it came down to. I think me knowing that I had a job sped up my recovery."

### OVER-WATCH KEY TO RECOVERY

The Wounded Warrior Regiment comprises two battalions, one on the East Coast here on Camp LeJeune, N.C., and one on the West Coast on Camp Pendleton, Calif., and a third company in Hawaii. It is the realization of the Marine Corps' historic push to accommodate the influx of seriously wounded Marines since the start of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Each provides coverage for Marines receiving care in their areas. The battalion here has oversight of more than 300 Marines who are recovering this side of the Mississippi River. The West Coast battalion has oversight of about 200 recovering Marines.

To date, more than 6,600 Marines have received Purple Hearts since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom. About 1,200 are seriously injured and still on active duty in various stages of their recovery.

Baronie is one of the Marine Corps' nearly 3,000 injured who have returned to active duty. And he is not the only leader in the company who was injured in combat.

"The first sergeant got wacked with an [rocket-propelled grenade], the gunny got blown up in Afghanistan, and all three of my platoon sergeants have either gotten shot or blown up," Baronie said.

In these units, Marines spend their days concentrating on healing and transitioning to the next phase of their lives, whether that means recovering and staying on active duty or leaving the service.

A morning muster inside the dayroom starts each day here at about 7:30. Marines attend, if they are physically able. Every day company leadership visits each of the Marines, ensuring they are on the road to recovery. Nine squad leaders are responsible for about 10 Marines each.

"I think that's the key piece - seeing them every single day. You can see if they're having a problem. You can see if they're depressed. You can see if they're over-medicated. That's the beauty of this place," Baronie said.

### ACTIVITY AS THERAPY

The Marines occupy the two sets of barracks here. The more seriously injured are housed with the command staff. Others live across base. Married Marines live in town. Most receive medical support at Naval Hospital Camp LeJeune, but many go off base for specialty care. Others are sent to major medical treatment facilities across the United States.

During the day, Marines attend medical appointments and physical therapy, or meet with counselors and specialists. Of the Marines here, about two-thirds have jobs. If they are attending the local college, that counts as their job, Baronie said. Some have jobs in the barracks, others around base. One works in traffic court. Others help teachers at the local elementary school.

Staying active is key to healing, Baronie said. It is dangerous for Marines to stay isolated in their rooms for hours or days at a time. Baronie said he doesn't want any "professional X-Box players."

The battalion staff work out of temporary trailers arranged in a horse-shoe pattern beside 1940s-era red brick barracks. Wooden wheelchair ramps snake between the buildings. A new \$27 million barracks complex is under construction that will move the Marines closer to the hospital and other treatment facilities on base.

The West Coast battalion has a similar barracks construction project planned.

Three nurse case managers make sure Marines keep their appointments. This is sometimes difficult because medications and brain injuries muddle appointment dates and times for the Marines. More than three-quarters of them suffer from post traumatic stress disorder or a traumatic brain injury, Baronie said.

Baronie cuts them no slack, though, for missed appointments. "The reason why you were sent here wasn't to pull triggers," he tells the Marines. "It wasn't to go into the field. It is to heal. You go to your appointments. You have to do your part to get better."

If that sounds strict, it is. But that's because Baronie is looking out for the Marines. Just as other units prepare their troops for war, he prepares his Marines for the next stage of their lives.

"I try not to call them wounded warriors. I call them Marines," Baronie said.

### PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

"Life doesn't stop when you get wounded. You've got to have

---

See Marines, Pg 5





## Executive Committee Meeting St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA; 10 November 2008 Reported by Chris Lillich, Acting Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Fernald at 12:30 a.m. The invocation was given by Chaplain George Brown and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Larry Fernald.

Nineteen members were present including George Brown, Basil Burrell, Pete Dawson, Fred Edwards,

Pauline Edwards, Bill Eisenhart, Bob Eynatten, Larry Fernald, Paul Finley, Anita Harrow, Ed Lillich, Chris Lillich, Marie Lorence, H.B. Love, Hazel McGrath, Janice Mogan, Stew Palmer, Violet Smith and Terry Carr.

Motion was made by Paul Finley and seconded by Fred Edwards to approve minutes of 6 October, 2008 as published in the Officers Call. Motion carried. Pete Dawson gave the Treasurer's report. Renewal of dues was very good for October. Anita Harrow made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Violet Smith. Motion carried.

Ed Lillich reported that Pam Dubov, Pinellas County Property Appraiser, will be the speaker for November. Pam's husband Bruce will also attend and both of them are potential Chapter members. A representative from Toys for Tots will speak at the December 12 meeting and we will be entertained by a choral group from Faith Presbyterian Church. The group consists of fourteen people for which we will provide lunch. Ed suggested that we increase the cost of the luncheon for December only to \$13.00. Paul Finley made a motion to increase the cost to \$13.00, seconded by Stew Palmer. Motion passed.

Janice Mogan said Hospice will put an ad in the souvenir book. Janice also reported that everyone enjoyed the cruise and the Chapter group was joined by two people from Las Vegas and two from Colorado Springs.

Marie Lorence volunteered to submit an article on D-Day for the December Officers Call.

Anita Harrow said she expected to expend quite a bit of money on the Christmas boxes she will be sending to the troops. Nine boxes were sent for Thanksgiving. Costs from the H.O.T. fund were cut to a minimum because of so many contributions she received. Boxes were sent to two groups in Afghanistan which contained copies of the Officers Call and one box went to Marine group in Iraq. Anita included copies of the Marine article from the O.C. for that box. Notes written by our Chapter members along with letters from Anita and Larry and Christmas cards for the troops to send to their families were also included. The Christmas boxes will contain a special gift for each of the troops in the form of a camouflaged scarf. Three cartons of personal sized toothpaste was received from Asa Myers' dentist in addition to a box of cookies and candy from a middle school service project. Anita appreciates all donations from our Chapter members and her neighbors. Ladies from Anita's building are helping her pack the boxes.

Hazel McGrath reported the following people on the sick/concerned list: Louann Andrews, Rodney Bricker, Maggie Eynatten, Robert Hodgen, Ed McCormick, Katherine Miller, Rose Munchbach, Ralph Myers, Al Neville, and Ronald Wildes. Violet reported that Trudy Houser passed away on the 30th of October and Dick Houser passed away on November 1.

Violet asked everyone to send a letter to the [editor@MOAA.org](mailto:editor@MOAA.org), or call the toll free number at MOAA, to say how much we appreciated the article on Auxiliary member Hattie Hunt that appeared in the recent Military Officers magazine. Violet said this is the only way we can get more articles in the magazine.

Pauline has sold thirty four shirts and thirteen hats. Fred reported that the MOAA store will place our Chapter logo on anything they sell at a reduced price for quantities and items can be mixed.

Marie Lorence thanked Basil for the birthday card from the Chapter for her 93rd birthday.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Convention:** Thirty have signed up to date. Grant Culverhouse will renew his ad in the Officers' Call as well as take an ad in the souvenir book. Henry Ince put an announcement out via the Florida Council Message Center which generated 5 reservations.

**Installation:** Larry passed out a comparable cost sheet for the installation banquet from three hotels. After discussion, a motion was made by Pete, seconded by Basil that the installation banquet be held at the Downtown Hilton on Saturday, January 17, 2009. Motion approved by majority. The Hilton will give us a certificate for a 2 night, 3 day stay which we can use as a silent auction item. Larry has invited Senator Nelson to be our speaker, but has not yet received a commitment.

### NEW BUSINESS:

After discussion, a motion was made by Violet Smith and seconded by Stew Palmer that we purchase ten wreaths at a cost of \$15.00 per wreath from the local Civil Air Patrol to be placed on veterans' grave sites on December 13, wreaths to be paid for from Chapter operating funds. Motion failed to pass. Larry suggested that if anyone would like to do this as a personal project he will provide the necessary information.

There being no further business George gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned. The next executive meeting will be 1 December at 11:30.



Left: Sherry Freese,  
Dorothy Brown, and  
Betty Finley





### Marines, From Pg 3

some type of responsibility and, whether you choose to stay in the Marine Corps or move into civilian life, you're still going to have to press forward," Baronie said. "What happens when you go into the civilian world and that corporation you work for is trying to make money and you don't come to work? They might not care that you're wounded. You may hear two words - 'You're fired.'"

The career planner for the company is himself an injured Marine who has stayed on active duty with a permanent disability, working limited duty. Marine Corps leadership has vowed to keep all injured Marines on active duty who can still work in some capacity. The limited duty assignment allows the Marine to receive a disability assignment from the service, for later benefits, but to stay on active duty in a job they can perform. The Marine can later decide to leave the service if he or she finds the circumstances too difficult.

For many, that next step is sometimes a greater dilemma than their recovery. Mixed emotions swell as they are forced to reconcile what they want to do with what their bodies will now allow them to do.

"These guys are torn right now because all of them are grunts (infantrymen). They left high school and didn't want to go to college. They wanted to join the Marine Corps and they wanted to shoot and blow up stuff," Baronie said. "And now they may be able to stay in the Marine Corps, but they know that they won't be able to go back to that grunt community. They'll be found unfit to do that strenuous [job]."

The career planner, a Veterans Affairs representative and a "transition coordinator" all work from the battalion's resource center in the barracks. They help the Marines look at their decisions from more than an emotional perspective. They map out college plans or suggest other training programs, career paths, benefits and other financial incentives that are available, so that the Marines can look at the big picture.

#### INJURIES ADD CREDIBILITY

For Baronie, the difficulty is relaying to the Marines that they still can contribute to the mission, even if they're not on the front lines.

"Trying to get these guys to understand that just because you're not sweating, freezing, starving, and miserable in a grunt community, you can still participate and contribute to the Marine Corps mission," Baronie said. "Helping them understand that right now is the hardest thing."

Baronie's decision to stay in was easy, he said. As an adjutant, or an administrative officer, he is still able to handle the work.

"It was a slam dunk (decision) to stay in since my job is administrative in nature," Baronie said. "I can punch this keyboard until my hand turns blue and I can still be a good adjutant. I can still do legal, I can still count Marines. I can still do all that."

Still, Baronie's crutches bother him; it's hard to carry stuff. And, he looks different. But what bothers him most is that it's hard to return a fellow Marine's salute.

He's not sure if he will stay in past his next assignment.

"Right now, I know I am contributing to the Marine Corps in this capacity. I'm putting a lot of hours in a day and taking care of my guys to the best of my ability," he said. "If I go to another unit and that training is going 45 miles an hour and I'm only good with 30, I will walk away. I will not stick around for the sake of sticking around. If the Marine Corps' mission is slacking because of me, it will be time for me to go," Baronie said.

But for now, as Baronie moves around his company, inspecting repairs, talking to Marines and stopping in their small kitchen to see what is cooking, it is clear that he is one of them.

His injuries give him credibility. They know he has "been there" and do not hesitate to pull him aside to talk. Sometimes it's about problems. Sometimes it's just to talk. Occasionally a "wheelchair jousting" match will break out in the halls, or - Marines being Marines - they begin good-naturedly beating each other with their crutches.

For Baronie and his Marines, this is home. "I don't want to work anywhere else. I love just coming to work and hanging out with them. These guys are awesome," he said.



Don Freese and his Marlin. Caught 10 miles off the coast of Acapulco, it was 8 feet long and 120 pounds.



Right: Janice Mogan and her brother, Gerry Vuillemot, act up for Halloween aboard the Celebrity cruise ship, *Infinity*



Left: Earl Peck lets his hair down for Halloween aboard the Celebrity cruise ship, *Infinity*





## Luncheon Meeting; 14 November 2008

Reported by **Basil Burrell**

**Attended – 72:** (69 reservations), 37 Members,  
7 Auxiliaries, 14 spouses, 9 Member Guests,  
2 Chapter Guests  
[3 Walk-ins, 6 No-shows, 0 Cancellations]

Our Chapter President, LtCol Larry Fernald USAF(Ret), after a pleasant social hour, asked our Chaplain COL George Brown USA(Ret) to give the Invocation and then Larry led us in the Pledge to our Flag and Country. Then Larry called for the door prize and equity distribution drawings. Again I was left out of the loot distribution, but congratulations to those who were winners.

Larry announced that Ron Wildes, who has been very ill for over two weeks, has been transferred to Kindred Pulmonary Care Unit at 3030 Sixth Street South in St. Petersburg for recovery. He seems to be doing better as he had his first meal today in 19 days. We are all hopeful that he has a satisfactory recovery.

Larry announced that Anita Harrow has Christmas cards that she wishes us to sign so that she can pack them in the boxes to be shipped to Afghanistan and Iraq for our HOT program. Please sign one of these cards together with your wishes for the safe return of our troops. Anita says that she sent a copy of our newsletter "Officers Call" to the Air Controller detachments and a page from the same "Officers Call" that concerned the Marine Corps written by our member Col Robert Berns, USMC (Ret), to the Marine group. Anita and her volunteers sent nine boxes in October and have more boxes to send to arrive before Christmas. The Christmas boxes will contain only Christmas goodies such as cookies or candy and no tooth paste and other practical or ordinary stuff. Anita deserves all our support and help. She is doing a great job with the HOT program. Thanks Anita! Anita changed tack and spoke about her role as Auxiliary Liaison. If you have read the November issue of "Military Officer" magazine or MOM you should have seen an article about military widows. One of our own, Mrs Hattie Hunt, was one of three widows featured. Hattie was notified by telegram that her husband of eight years, MAJ William Hunt, USA, had been killed in action during the Korean War. Hattie told her story of how she functioned after receiving the terrible news and what she did to cope. The Auxiliary Committee of MOAA worked three years to get this article published. They worked very hard to persuade the widows to tell their stories. Anita asks that we call the editor of MOM to express our appreciation for printing the article. You can call or e-mail for this. E-mail address for the editor is: editor@moaa.org. Very simple.



Larry Butterfield a member who owns a candy and ice cream shop on the beach dropped off three packages of fudge for the Chapter to use as we wish. It was decided to give them away by drawing the door prize tickets. Now for the membership renewals. Larry said that we are approaching the half-way point in the renewal effort. Larry called on CAPT Don Freese USN(Ret) to speak about the MOAA Life Member program that MOAA national is currently promoting. Life membership is a good deal and currently MOAA is offering 10% off the regular price. Since Don had the floor he just kept talking and reminded us that the 2009 state convention is a hot item even though it may seem a long time off. June 2009 is closer than you think. You can make your reservations now and your plastic will not be charged until next year. Larry announced that Convention Tee shirts are available at the unheard of low price of \$40.00 each. Ball caps can also be had for only \$12.00 each, however they are not Convention related, just St. Petersburg Chapter logos. The same logo on visors are available for the \$12.00 price also. After advertising the St. Petersburg Opera's presentation of the opera the "Merry Widow" Larry broke for lunch.

After lunch Larry gave a brief pre-introduction of our speaker for today and then turned the mike over to First VP Ed Lillich who spoke at length by way of introducing Ms Pam Dubov. Ms Dubov is ex military having served as a Captain in the U. S. Army. Her husband Bruce Dubov is a retired Army LTC. We have here two potential new Chapter members! Mrs Dubov was recently elected as Pinellas County Property Appraiser. She has a JD degree from Stetson University and is very knowledgeable about her new office and its functions. She also gave us plenty of information that many of us were unaware of before. I don't have the space to go into all of her presentation, just that you should have been there to be educated about the laws and rules pertaining to her job. Mrs Dubov asked if there were any questions and there were a lot of them. All the recent talk about taxes has many people confused. Mrs Dubov got us squared away on the tax subject. After Mrs Dubov's answer session, Larry called for Chaplain George Brown to give the Benediction then adjourned the meeting.

The emergency number worldwide for Mobile is 112. If you find yourself out of the coverage area of your cell network and there is an emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing network to establish the emergency number for you; interestingly this number 112 can be dialled even if the keypad is locked.

Convention Shirts and hats--See Pauline Edwards to purchase





All Photos by Basil.

Thank You, Basil!



Carl Bowley



Our Speaker, Pam Dubov, Pinellas County Property Appraiser



Martha Sumpter



Herb Tondreau



Jim Patton



Kay Sherman



Fran Williams and Buddy Ellison



Pete Dawson and Don Freese



Marie Fanfler



John and Marlene Talbitzer



New Members: Bill and Jane Lee



Bobbie Walters



Jim Conklin and Margie Milford



David Fanfler





## The Buzz

### Chapter Happenings and Items of Interest

Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF (Ret)

522-6237 or Larry246MOAA@sprynet.com

■ When doing your Christmas cards this year, take one card and send it to the address below. Think of how many cards these wonderful special people who have sacrificed so much would get if everyone sent just one card.

**A Recovering American Soldier**  
**c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center**  
**6900 Georgia Avenue, NW**  
**Washington, D.C. 20307-5001**

■ **THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW YOUR CELL PHONE COULD DO:** Imagine your cell battery is very low. To activate, press the keys \*3370#. Your cell will restart with this reserve and the instrument will show a 50% increase in battery. This reserve will get charged when you charge your cell next time.

### 2008 Scholarship Fund Donors (Includes donations to National MOAA)

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

••GOLD –

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 Love, HB COL  
 Nelson, Landy COL  
 Neville, Al Col  
 Palmer, Stew Col  
 Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
 Smith, Violet Mrs.

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 Carr, Terry LTC  
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 Kaniss, Margery Mrs.  
 Nolan, Richard Col  
 Parsons, Charles Col

••BRONZE –

Andrews, Carrol, Lt Col  
 Balke, Dale COL  
 Baney, Eleanore Mrs.  
 Bennett, Will COL  
 Bonnet, Franklyn LTC  
 Brink, Charles LTC

Brown, George L. COL  
 Buenzli, Bob Lt Col  
 Burke, BJ Mrs.  
 Christie, Robert LtCo.  
 Christy, Marge Mrs.  
 Cormier, Martha LCDR  
 Dawson, Pete Maj  
 D'Louhy, Jacqueline Mrs  
 Eisenhart, Bill Col  
 Fratarangelo, Pal MajGen  
 Green, Richard CWO4  
 Hermann, Peter Col  
 Hetherington, Charles Col  
 Jessup, John COL  
 Johnson, Frank LCDR  
 Kelly, Jacob LT  
 Kersey, Kerry CDR  
 Koch, Richard Lt Col AF  
 Lillich, Ed MAJ  
 March, Larry Col  
 Martin, Barbara Mrs.  
 McGrath, Hazel LCDR  
 Merriitt, Ron COL  
 Myers, Ralph, Lt Col AF  
 Nelson, Anthony LTC  
 Oster, Evelyn Mrs.  
 Plummer, Dot Mrs  
 Polk, Cliff Maj  
 Schramm, Wayne Brig Gen  
 Shepard, Walter COL  
 Shivers, Frances Capt  
 Simmons, Don CWO4  
 Spencer, Denzel MAJ  
 Tomasula, Mike MAJ  
 Tondreau, Herbert CWO4  
 Wildes, Ron Lt Col  
 Wisner, Charles LCDR

**Member donations ONLY:**  
**\$4,580 as of 11/20/2008**

### 2008 Help Our Troops Donors

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

••GOLD –

Barton, Anne Mrs.  
 Benson, Dkay Mrs.  
 Burrell, Basil CWO4  
 Carr, Terry LTC  
 Drake, William N. COL  
 Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
 Fine, Ken MAJ  
 Finley, Paul LCDR  
 Freese, Don CAPT  
 Gilchrist, Gary Lt Col  
 Gudmundson, Brent LTC  
 Harrison, Christa Mrs.  
 Hodgen, Rober CWO4  
 Hoffman, Elizabeth Capt  
 Isley, Anne Mrs.  
 Jessup, John COL  
 Kottich, Charles COL  
 Lorence, Marie LTC  
 Menyhert, Louisa LTC  
 Milford, John A. Lt Col  
 Nelson, Landy COL  
 Neville, Al Col  
 Nolan, Richard Col  
 Palmer, Stew Col  
 Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
 Smith, Violet Mrs.  
 Speiars, Ed COL  
 Sumpter, Martha Mrs.  
 Talbitzer, John LT  
 Ward, Wayne CPT

••SILVER –

Augustine, John Col  
 Balke, Dale COL  
 Baney, Eleanor Mrs.  
 Eisenhart, Bill Col  
 Eynatten, Bob CAPT  
 Fratarangelo, Paul MajGen  
 Green, Richard CWO4  
 Harrow, Anita Mrs.  
 Hunt, Hattie Mrs.  
 Lanier, Laurie Maj  
 Lillich, Ed MAJ

Martin, Barbara Mrs.  
 Munchbach, Rose LTC  
 Poteat, Genevieve Mrs.  
 Secor, Madeline Mrs.  
 Williams, Frances Mrs.

••BRONZE –

Andrews, Carrol, Lt Col  
 Bax, Giles COL  
 Bennett, Will COL  
 Bonnet, Franklyn LTC  
 Brown, Gary B Gen  
 Brown, George L. COL  
 Butler, Gene Col  
 Christie, Robert LtCo.  
 Christy, Marge Mrs.  
 Cormier, Emery Maj  
 Cowardin, Margaret Mrs.  
 DeArment, Harold G. COL  
 D'Louhy, Jacqueline Mrs  
 Edwards, Fred LtCol  
 Hetherington, Charles Col  
 Johnson, Frank LCDR  
 Kelly, Jacob LT  
 Kersey, Kerry CDR  
 Landers, Joan Mrs.  
 March, Larry Col  
 McGrath, Hazel LCDR  
 Merriitt, Ron COL  
 Miller, Katherine Mrs.  
 Roe, Bobbie Jo Maj  
 Shepard, Walter COL  
 Shields, Roger COL  
 Shivers, Frances Capt  
 Spencer, Denzel MAJ  
 Tondreau, Herbert CWO4  
 Varn, Fred LTC  
 Wetherby, Shirley Lt Col  
 Wildes, Ron Lt Col

**Member donations ONLY:**  
**\$2,881 as of 11/20/2008**

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## December Birthdays

(39 to 93 years)

Day	L Name, F Name	Rank	SVC
18	Adams, Barbara	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
29	Baney, Eleanor	Mrs.	AuxMbr-N
28	Bonnet, Franklyn	LTC	USA (Ret)
28	Brown, Michael	LTC	USA (Ret)
19	Buenzli, Robert	Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
07	Butler, Jerome	COL	USA (Ret)
28	Butler, Mildred (Gene)	Col	USAF (Ret)
21	Butterfield, Larry	LTJG	USN (Frm)
05	Corbett, Richard	Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
30	Cormier, Martha	LCDR	USN (Ret)
31	Couture, Bertrand	COL	USA (Ret)
31	Cowardin, Margaret	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
11	Drake, William	COL	USA (Ret)
05	Edwards, Richard	CAPT	USN (Ret)
12	Foster, Willie	LTC	USA (Ret)
21	Harrow, Anita	Mrs.	AuxMbr-N
24	Hodgen, Robert	CWO4	USAF (Ret)
21	Holzwardt, Raymond	Maj	USMC (Ret)
01	Horne, Arleen	Mrs.	AuxMbr
12	Hubert, William	Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
29	Klein, William	MG	USA (Ret)
05	Lillich, Edward	MAJ	USA (Ret)
24	Luzarraga, Robert	2LT	USAR
13	Mahan, Allan	Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
30	Mattson, Margaret	Mrs.	AuxMbr-CG
21	Merritt, Ronald	COL	USA (Ret)
01	Neville, Albert	Col	USAF (Ret)
31	Nichols, William	Col	USAF (Ret)
10	Osborn, Duane	LTC	USAR (Ret)
18	Petkiewicz, Joseph	LCDR	USN (Ret)
09	Reed, Robert	CDR	USN (Ret)
30	Schlager, Fred	CWO4	USCG (Ret)
09	Slicker, Elsie	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
19	Starwyck, Stephen	CAPT	USN (Ret)
25	Stenehjem, George	COL	USA (Ret)



## Welcome our new members!

- **Bartlett, William M., CAPT, USNR;** 1280 69th Street North, St Petersburg, 33710; 727-347-3322; whb2@verizon.net
- **Lee, William T., LCDR, USN (Ret);** 101 Bath Club Concourse, N. Reddington Beach, 33708; 727-399-0058; wlee315695@aol.com
- **Plummer, Mrs. Dorothy, AuxMbr-N;** 10265 Ulmerton Road, #191, Largo, FL 33771; 727-586-1447; DotPlummer@webtv.net

### PROGRESS REPORT --Annual Dues and Donation Drives

By now (November 20th) everyone should have received a personalized Membership Renewal and annual donation drive letter. It came in our unique color envelope. It was sent 1st class!



As of today, there are 85 members who have yet to renew their membership in the Chapter.

In the near future, we will be calling all 85 of you to see if you intend to renew or to be dropped from membership.

Remember, 2009 dues are due by 31 December.

### Sick List

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

- \* **CWO4 Robert E. Hodgen**, USAF (Ret)  
Page 27, 2008 Directory
- \* **LTC Richard H. Natzke**, USA (Ret)  
Page 35, 2008 Directory
- \* **Col Rod Bricker**, USAF (Ret)  
Page 18, 2008 Directory
- \* **Lt Col Ron Wildes**, USAFR (Ret)  
Page 45, 2008 Directory
- \* **LTC Rose Munchbach**, USA (Ret)  
Page 34, 2008 Directory
- \* **Louann Andrews**, Spouse  
Page 15, 2008 Directory
- \* **Maggie Eynatten**, Spouse  
Page 23, 2008 Directory
- \* **Katherine M. Miller**, AuxMbr-A  
Page 34, 2008 Directory
- \* **CDR Ed McCormick**, USN (Ret)  
Page 33, 2008 Directory
- \* **Lt Col Ralph Myers**, USAF (Ret)  
Page 35, 2008 Directory

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# TAPS

- **Arnim, Rosemary H., AuxMbr-A,** 26 October, Pg 15, 2008 Directory
- **Houser, Trudy, Spouse,** 30 October, Pg 28, 2008 Directory
- **Houser, Richard A., MAJ, USA (Ret),** 1 November, Pg 28, 2008 Directory

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends.

## 2008 Officers Call BOOSTER Donors

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

••GOLD –

Burrell, Basil CWO4  
 Benson, D. Kay Mrs.  
 Carr, Terry LTC  
 Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
 Fine, Ken MAJ  
 Freese, Don CAPT  
 Gudmundson, Brent LTC  
 Isley, Anne Mrs.  
 Lorence, Marie LTC  
 Love, HB COL  
 Nelson, Landy COL  
 Neville, Al Col  
 Nolan, Richard Col  
 Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
 Smith, Violet Mrs.  
 Speiars, Ed COL

Vaughn, Sid RADM  
 Wisner, Charles LCDR

••BRONZE –

Andrews, Carrol, Lt Col  
 Bennett, Will COL  
 Bonnet, Franklyn LTC  
 Brown, George L. COL  
 Butler, Gene Col  
 Christie, Robert LtCol  
 Christy, Marge Mrs.  
 Cormier, Emery Maj  
 DeArment, Harold G. COL  
 D'Louhy, Jacqueline Mrs  
 Edwards, Fred LtCol  
 Hetherington, Charles Col  
 Johnson, Frank LCDR  
 Kelly, Jacob LT  
 Kersey, Kerry CDR  
 Lanier, Laurie Maj  
 March, Larry Col  
 Martin, Barbara Mrs.  
 McGrath, Hazel LCDR  
 Shepard, Walter COL  
 Shutt, Richard CAPT  
 Tondreau, Herbert CWO4  
 Wildes, Ron Lt Col

•• SILVER –

Balke, Dale COL  
 Baney, Eleanor Mrs.  
 Dawson, Pete Maj  
 Eynatten, Bob CAPT  
 Fontana, Raymond LT USN  
 Fratangelo, Pal MajGen  
 Green, Richard CWO4  
 Harrow, Anita Mrs  
 Lillich, Ed MAJ  
 Milford, John A. Lt Col  
 Milford, John Lt Col  
 Nichols, William L. Col  
 Palmer, Stew Col

**Member donations ONLY:**  
**\$1,622 as of 11/20/2008**

### Financial Report for the Month of October 2008

**Officers Call Boosters**

Balance, Beginning of Month .....	\$ 149.19
Donations .....	\$ 700.00
Printing Expenses .....	\$ 323.30
Postage Expenses .....	\$ 00.00
Balance, End of Month .....	\$ 525.89

**HOT Fund**

Balance, Beginning of Month .....	\$ 4,043.19
Donations .....	\$ 1,125.00
50/50 Income .....	\$ 00000
Expenses .....	\$ 299.20
Balance, End of Month .....	\$ 4,868.99

**Scholarship Fund**

Balance, Beginning of Month .....	\$ 738.41
Donations and 50/50.....	\$ 1,169.00
Memorials .....	\$ 60.00
Balance, End of Month .....	\$ 2,267.41

**Operating Account**

Balance, Beginning of Month .....	\$ 115.41
Monthly Luncheon .....	\$ 651.00
Dues/Give Me 10 .....	\$ 3,360.00
Miscellaneous Income .....	\$ 24.00
Luncheon Expense .....	\$ 650.00
Supplies & Non-recurring.....	\$ 73.80
Postage Expense .....	\$ 139.02
Printing Expense .....	\$ 169.97
Memorials Expense .....	\$ 60.00
Balance, End of Month .....	\$ 3,057.62



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





Cell phone companies are charging us \$1.00 to \$1.75 or more for 411 information calls when they don't have to. Most of us do not carry a telephone directory in our vehicle, which makes this situation even more of a problem. When you need to use the 411 information option, simply dial: (800) FREE 411, or (800) 373-3411 without incurring any charge at all, except for normal cell usage. Program this into your cell phone.



"Earl and the Cruisers" aboard the Celebrity *Infinity*

ST. PETERSBURG OPERA presents

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MARK SFORZINI

FRIDAY JAN. 16 7:30PM  
SATURDAY JAN. 17 7:30PM  
SUNDAY JAN. 18 2:00PM

\$18.50, \$30, \$45, \$60 WWW.STPETEOPERA.ORG THE PALLADIUM THEATER

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## 2009 Installation Ceremony

WHEN: 17 JANUARY 2009

WHERE: St. Petersburg Hilton, 331  
1<sup>st</sup> Street South

ATTIRE: Uniform Mess Dress, Tux,  
Evening Attire

TIME: Social "Hour" 5:45 to 6:30  
Dinner at 6:30 until....

### LUNCHEON MEETING

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, December 12<sup>th</sup>

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

- Reservations by Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup>

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

#### Each reservation \$13:

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

Salmon w/Dill: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

SPAMOOA,

CAPT Bob Eynatten, USN (Ret)

507 Plaza Seville Ct, # 16

Treasure Island, FL 33706

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

CAPT Bob Eynatten 360-4637 or

Lt Col Larry Fernald 522-6237

### INSTALLATION BANQUET

5:45 PM - 10:00 PM, January 17<sup>th</sup> 2009

St Pete Hilton, 331 1<sup>st</sup> Street South

- Reservations by Wednesday January 14<sup>th</sup>

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

#### Menu and Cost:

Prime Rib (\$30 each): \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken Piccata (\$28 each): \_\_\_\_\_

Salmon Teriyaki (\$29 each): \_\_\_\_\_

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

SPAMOOA,

CAPT Bob Eynatten, USN (Ret)

507 Plaza Seville Ct, # 16

Treasure Island, FL 33706

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

CAPT Bob Eynatten 360-4637 or

Lt Col Larry Fernald 522-6237