

# OFFICERS CALL

## ST. PETERSBURG AREA CHAPTER,

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



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

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CAPT Don Freese, USN (Ret), President

**Why would anyone want to be a MOAA Chapter President?** That is the question I was asked one year ago by an outgoing chapter officer when I volunteered (OK, had my arm twisted a little?) to be our chapters President.



One year later, my arm has recovered and I am glad it was twisted as I have found many reasons to be a Chapter President. First, use of the corporate jet (if we had one), keys to the private latrine (if I clean it) and unlimited expense account (if I pay it) are high on the list as I learned at the 2006 SE Region Presidents Symposium in Savannah, GA. Of course all are not true but working with members that are real heroes who fought in just about every major battle from Pearl Harbor to Baghdad is the main reason. Our members are "men and women who were over there" so that we would not have to fight "over here."

Second, I have found that even though MOAA members may be a little above average age they are also way above average when it comes to caring about our country, our way of life, and today's men and women in and out of uniform fighting the "Global War on Terrorism."

Third, every month something good happens.

In September I received a call from a friend and MOAA member. He had been called by the sister of a former officer who has a "debilitating" disease. His illness caused him to move to a continuing care living facility in Florida. I called the former officer as his sister said that he loved the Navy and needed to get involved. I invited him to our next Executive Meeting where he instantly bonded with all. He came to the next General meeting and I am pleased to announce that he is one of MOAA's newest life members. But even more importantly his sister up north called me and said MOAA had given her brother something to look forward to and a reason to keep on fighting his disease. Wow!

In early October I received a call from a 92 year old lady, her husband is 95, who was having trouble pushing the right buttons to make an appointment to get her permanent id card. I asked her when she was available and she said anytime I can get the "buttons" to tell me when. I called the Navy Reserve Center and explained the situation to the Petty Officer in charge and scheduled an appointment for her. Her daughter took her and the Petty Officer was waiting for her. She wrote me a thank you note and

### DECEMBER 15<sup>th</sup> PROGRAM

Nancy Hill and Promises Quartet:- They will perform before lunch - during Social hour, The National Anthem and America the Beautiful and/or the Armed Forces Medley to open the meeting and then a 15 to 20 minute Christmas Program after Toys for Tots.



**New unwrapped toys**

said among other things "that my mother raised a good son!" Wow!

Our program recently was about USAA. The speakers were great and met with individuals after the meeting to answer individual questions and attempt to solve any problems. That night I received a call from an Auxiliary member who had her problem solved by USAA after the meeting. She thanked me and signed off by saying "I love you for what MOAA does!" Wow!

So why would anyone want to be a MOAA President (or active in MOAA?)

Where else can you work with heroes from many generations, give a person a reason to fight a disease, told by someone that she loves you (and your wife does not get mad) and the most important compliment of all "your mother raised a good son?"

Doesn't get any better than that! Even the corporate jet could not raise your spirit higher.



## Officers Call

Published Monthly by The St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA, Inc. P.O. Box 7054, St Petersburg, FL 33734.

- Editor– COL Roger Shields, USA ..... 392-4323
- Layout Editor– Col Al Neville, USAF ..... 522-5685
- Reporter/Photos– CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG 821-7365
- Consultant/Proofing– Johnnie Neville ..... 522-5685

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 St Petersburg Post Office, Permit #1533. Printed by Sir Speedy, St Petersburg, FL.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### DIRECTORS

- President- Don Freese CAPT, USN ..... 360-3102
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Larry Fernald, Lt Col USAF ..... 522-6237
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Al Neville, Col USAF ..... 522-5685
- Secretary- Mrs. D Kay Benson, AuxMbr-AF ..... 895-5116
- Treasurer- Pete Dawson, Maj USAF ..... 894-3761

### EXECUTIVE ADVISORY BOARD

—2006—

- CAPT Bob Eynatten, USN ..... 360-4637
- Mrs. Violet Smith, AuxMbr - A ..... 595-5543
- MAJ Mike Tomasulo, USA ..... 546-0130

—2006 & 2007—

- Lt Col Dick Koch, USAF ..... 360-4637
- Lt Col Gary Gilchrist, USAF ..... 595-5543
- Col Bill Eisenhart, USAF ..... 526-5088

### Immediate Past President

- LCDR Paul Finley, USNR ..... 391-5908

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Advertising ..... Mrs Joan Landers, AuxMbr-A ..... 360-8549
- Auxiliary Liaison .. Mrs. Jane Gaugh ..... 367-2010
- Bylaws/Policy Bk .. LtCol Fred Edwards, USMC ..... 360-2936
- Chaplain: ..... COL George Brown, USA ..... 866-6859
- Data Base ..... Col Al Neville, USAF ..... 522-5685
- Electronic Info ..... Lt Col Larry Fernald USAF ..... 522-6237
- Historian: ..... LTC Marie Lorence, USA ..... 595-1342
- Law: ..... Lt Col Alan Christner, USAF ..... 596-3383
- Legislative: ..... COL Roger Shields, USA ..... 392-4323
- MacDill Liaison .... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A ..... 595-5543
- Master at Arms ..... CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG ..... 821-7365
- Membership ..... Col Al Neville, USAF ..... 522-5685
- Memorial ..... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A ..... 595-5543
- Newsletter ..... COL Roger Shields, USA ..... 392-4323
- Nominating Cmte .. CAPT Tom Harrow, USN ..... 367-9050
- Personal Affairs ..... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A ..... 595-5543
- Programs ..... Lt Col Larry Fernald USAF ..... 522-6237
- Publicity: ..... Mrs. D Kay Benson, AuxMbr-AF ..... 895-5116
- ROTC ..... CAPT Tom Harrow, USN ..... 367-9050
- ROWC Liaison ..... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A ..... 595-5543
- Scholarships: ..... CAPT Tom Harrow, USN ..... 367-9050
- 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 - 340  
 Regular Members - 240  
 Auxillary Members - 100

### Military Services:

Army - 87                      USMC - 13  
 USAF - 79                      USCG - 8  
 Navy - 53

11/22/06

## From the Editor COL Roger J. Shields, USA (Ret)

**Seasons Greetings** – For many, this Holiday Season brings a degree of sadness as we think of our children, grandchildren and the sons and daughters of our friends who are serving in harms way in foreign lands. Thanks to the generosity and kindness of many of our chapter members, Operation Help Our Troops (HOT) is bringing touches of home to our men and women who are serving in Afghanistan. We have received letters



of gratitude from the troops of “our” unit who tell us that their “hooches” are papered with the notes and letters that our members have taken the time to write. They appreciate us and we are happy to help them. Merry Christmas!

**Anchors Aweigh** – The Florida Council of Chapters departs the Port of Jacksonville on 10 May 2007 to return on 14 May after visiting Freeport and Nassau aboard the Carnival Celebration. The Special Guest is Vice Admiral Norb Ryan, USN, our Council President. This cruise is the venue for the 2007 Convention which promises to be a memorable event. Please call, email or write to Bill and Joan Aselage to make your reservations. Phone: 904 278-1105 or toll free at 877 365-3159, email: [www.cruiseone.com/jaselage](http://www.cruiseone.com/jaselage), or send your reservation form to: MOAA-NE-FL, 2007 Convention Registration, PO BOX 442022, Jacksonville FL 32222-2022.

Get your information and forms at [www.MOAAFL.org](http://www.MOAAFL.org), Conventions or get them at the Chapter luncheons where they will be available on the work tables. You are no doubt planning to attend the December Christmas Luncheon at Banquet Masters on Friday, December 15! A special holiday program is planned.

## Toys For Tots

This will be our forth year as a supporter of the “Marine Toys For Tots” program. This program was started in 1947 by a marine and has now grown to over 500 communities covering all 50 states. The toys that we give will be collected, sorted by age and gender, and stored until December 23 and 24, when the toys will be distributed to needy children in the community. Please help a child celebrate Christmas by **bringing an unwrapped new toy to our meeting this December.**

## 2007 Dues

Thanks to all who have paid their 07 dues. Our database contains your personal data including dues status, donations to our projects all of which is provided you in your individualized renewal package. We need your update information no later than mid-January for input to our 2007 Membership Directory.

Each year we start our renewal drive in October. This gives us time to communicate with members out of town, those for whom we may have an incorrect address and also make members aware of their donations.

Check this mailing label; some of you have yet to renew.

**General members \$20; Auxiliary members \$15**



Merry Christmas to All



# "Remember Pearl Harbor"

by Col Al Neville, USAF (Ret)

Quite a few chapter members, "Remember Pearl Harbor," heard on the radio, on news reels and read it in the newspapers. Our nation was energized to a degree not seen since. At the time of the attack, we had been rearming in earnest for about a year--since the draft started in the fall of 1940. The almost unbelievable effort by our country is most apparent when realizing that a nation of 160 million had placed 16 million in uniform by the war's end while simultaneously arming ourselves and much of the free world. And "people" complain about the human and financial cost of our current war on terrorism!

I am aware of three of us who were in Hawaii on December 7<sup>th</sup>: Col Ed Caton, air corps, Lt Col Carroll Andrews, air corps and me combat engineers.

**Ed Caton** was a sergeant aerial photographer in a B-17 reconnaissance unit of the 5<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group. Stationed at Hickam Army Air Field adjacent to Pearl Harbor, Ed had a ringside seat to the attack. Most of his unit's efforts were in saving the aircraft, themselves and facilities.

In early 1942, Ed was part of the B-17 crew that took the first photos of Wake Island. Two B-17s previously were lost in that effort. For that mission, Ed and most of the crew received the Distinguished Service Cross, our nation's second highest award.

**Carroll Andrews** was a Pfc in H & H Squadron, 18<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group (Int) at Wheeler AAF. He finished guard duty just before the attack. He was on the top floor of the headquarters building, a prime Japanese target. After the first bombs, Carroll and another soldier were ordered to take shelter at Schofield Barracks, a short distance away and, as it turned out, in my barracks—we didn't meet. On the way, Carroll, the organist for the catholic service, was pressed into hearing the catholic act of contrition and baptising an infant. He had a number of close calls with strafing Japanese fighters. Later in the morning he returned to his unit to help in the recovery. He also assisted the

chaplains in gathering personal effects of casualties.

**Al Neville**—I was a private in A company, 65<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Battalion, 25<sup>th</sup> Division on detached duty with the Hawaiian Department's West Point Preparatory School.

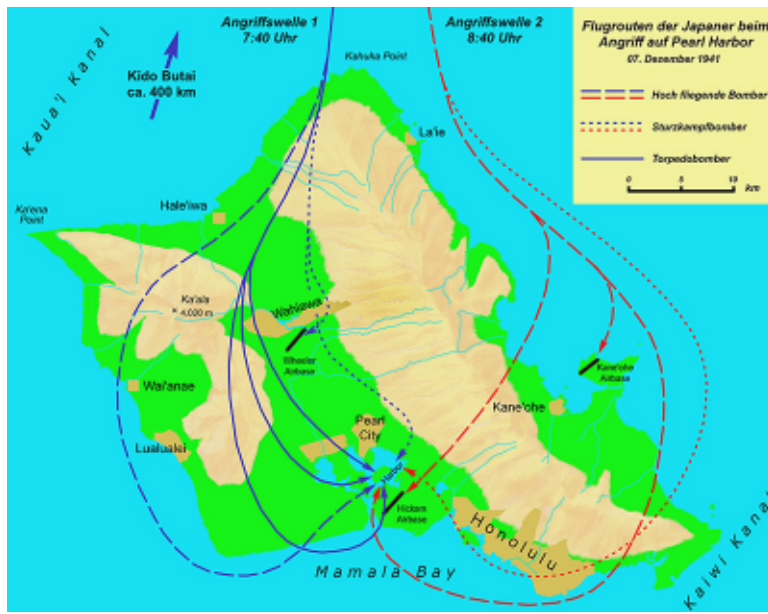
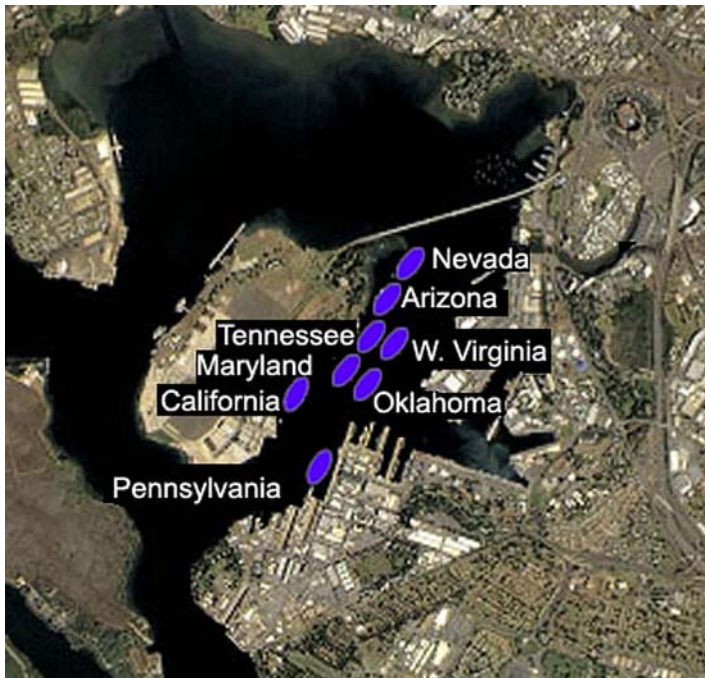
A few minutes before eight o'clock, I had finished breakfast and was proceeding to my third floor squadroom when I heard aircraft overhead. On the third floor balcony I looked to the east towards Wheeler AAF. There I saw an aircraft with fixed gear in a steep dive. It dropped an object (a bomb) and pulled up and away from me. Black smoke billowed up. A second one followed closely, dropped its bomb and pulled up towards me. It passed low over head. I could clearly see the red "meatballs" on its wing. The pilot and gunner were looking back at the airfield. I had just seen the first bomb dropped in the attack on Oahu.

I was pretty sure I knew what was happening. That October, Captain John Schmelzer, USMA '33, commandant of the West Point prep school had, told us that by the first of the year we would be at war with Japan. When that happened the prep school would close and the fifty of us would return to our units.

It had happened, we were at war!

I was the only one awake in my third floor squadroom. I tried to awaken the platoon sergeant; no luck. So, I went to my bunk and put on my field gear. Shortly, the low flying fighters made it clear that something unusual was happening and the barracks emptied into the quadrangle central area. The underwear clad GIs ran for cover when a Japanese fighter roared over head. Our bugler seized the opportunity of a life time—he blew "Call to Arms" ! (Few of us have heard it blown for real!)

A short while later, there were a number of loud nearby explosions—AAA shells from the fleet at Pearl Harbor were



Pearl Harbor, continued on Pg 5





## Executive Committee Meeting

St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA;

6 November 2006

Reported by D Kay Benson, AuxMbr-AF

The meeting was called to order by President Don Freese, at 11:30. Don Freese led us in the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. 16 members were in attendance: H.B Love, Stew Palmer, D. Kay Benson, Violet Smith, Fred Edwards, Earl Peck, Larry Fernald, Don Freese, Al Neville, Pete Dawson, Basil Burrell, Bob Eynatten, Roger Shields, Paul Finley, George Brown and Mike Tomasulo.

The minutes of October EC meeting were approved as written.

Al Neville and Basil Burrell will count votes at our election of Officers. In order to stay a Five Star chapter; less than 2% of our chapter members may not be members of National MOAA. Currently our chapter does not meet this standard. Violet Smith moved that we extend our policy of paying Auxiliary members chapter dues for one year to also include the paying of National MOAA dues. Earl Peck seconded the motion. Motion carried. More work is still needed to bring our chapter into compliance. Janice Mogan will be retiring from the VA in January. As second Vice President, she will also be the membership chairman.

There was discussion of the Officers Call distribution list and the possibility of an additional color so our Pelican would be brown. Cost increase is not significant but going to color pages is almost double. Therefore we will stay in B & W except for four color shell. It was suggested that we consider raising our ad rates.

2007 Executive Committee meetings day, time and location will stay as is with the option of returning to the Wardroom USCG St Petersburg every six months.

Our Installation of Officers Dinner will be 19 January 2007 1730 at the Treasure Island Tennis and Yacht Club. ASD RA RADM Tom Hall USN (Ret) will be our speaker. Boca Ciega JROTC will be the Color Guard with Nancy Hill "Promise Quartet" providing vocal entertainment. Earl Peck will be the MC and the installation officer will be Fred Edwards.

Larry Fernald presented the up-coming programs: Nov 10<sup>th</sup> Col. Scott Brumbaugh, Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Toys for Tots and Nancy Hill "Promise Quartet" Music. There is no lunch meeting in January as Jan 19<sup>th</sup> is our Installation of Officer Dinner with RADM Tom Hall. Larry asked for suggestions for future programs.

Al Neville reported about possible revisions in the Officers Call: more white space, fewer boxes, survey of likes and dislikes of programs and meetings. He asked for help in collecting chapter dues. It was suggested that there be an Auxiliary column. Jane Gaugh will be contacted. Al passed around a list of delinquent membership dues renewal and asked us to contact any we knew.

The Treasurer's report was read by Pete Dawson and approved as read. Help Our Troops (HOT) continues to be an overwhelming success. Roger Shields smiled as he talked about the many boxes in his living room.

In Tom Harrow's absence Don Freese presented Tom's idea for honoring the ROTC Senior Instructors. It was suggested that our



Don Freese, Carolyn Shields, our HOT chairlady

**Help Our Troops** – Since March of this year, **162 boxes** have been mailed to our "adopted" unit in Afghanistan. HOT has been successful because of the generosity of the St. Petersburg Area Chapter of MOAA, the Military Widows of Clearwater, Chapter 27, and friends of HOT. Thank you for all your support. On behalf of our brave troopers in Afghanistan who have shown appreciation for the goodies we have sent to them and from Roger and me, we wish all of you happy and blessed holidays.

– Carolyn Shields

### 2006 Help Our Troops Donors

Lt Col Carroll Andrews  
Mrs. Rosemary Arnim  
COL Dale Balke  
Mrs. Eleanor Baney  
Mrs. Ann Barton  
COL Giles Bax  
Mrs. Henriette Bischof  
CDR William Bolin  
LTC Franklyn Bonnet  
Mrs. Marja Borrowes  
Col Carl Bowley  
LCDR Charles Brink  
COL George Brown  
CWO4 Basil Burrell  
Col Gene Butler  
Col J. J. Butler  
Col Edward Caton  
Mrs. Marjorie Christy  
Maj Emery Cormier  
COL Bertrand Couture  
Mrs. Margaret Cowardin  
Mrs. Martha Cravens  
Maj Peter Dawson  
LTC Edward Diedo  
Mrs. Jacqueline D'Louhy  
CAPT Richard Edwards  
LtCol Fred Edwards  
Mrs. Beth Fenstermaker  
Lt Col Laurance Fernald  
MAJ A. K. Fine  
LCDR J. Paul Finley  
MajGenPaul, Fratarangelo  
CAPT Donald Freese  
LTC Brent, Gudmundson  
Mrs. Christa Harrison  
CAPT Thomas Harrow  
COL John Heilman  
Col Charles Hetherington  
Capt Elizabeth Hoffman  
Mrs. Elly Hunt  
Mrs. Anne Isley  
COL John Jessup

Mrs. Marjorie Johnson  
LCDR Frank Johnson  
2LT Cecil Keene  
1Lt Kathleen Klein  
COL Charles Kottich  
Mrs. Joan Landers  
Maj Laurie Lanier  
MAJ ED Lillich  
Col William Lofgren  
LTC Marie Lorence  
COL Heilbron Love  
Col Christian March  
Mrs. Barbara Martin  
LCDR Hazel McGrath  
Mrs. Katherine Miller  
1Lt Angelo Misuraca  
LTC Janice Mogan  
Mrs. Frances Moore  
Lt Col Ralph Myers  
Col Albert Neville  
LT Richard Oliver  
Col Charles Parsons  
Maj Gen Earl Peck  
COL James Piercy  
Col John Reed  
Col Bob Polk  
MAJ Elmer Rowe  
Mrs. Louise Rozecki  
Mrs. Madeline Secor  
COL Roger Shields  
Mrs. June Simon  
Maj Bob Sims  
Mrs. Violet Smith  
Lt Col Robert Trudell  
Mrs. Elsie Tugman  
Col Fred Varn  
Col Shirley Wetherby  
Lt Col Ronald Wildes  
Mrs. Frances Williams  
Mrs. Martha Willis  
**\$1,335 as of 11/25/06**

newsletter be mailed to the position not the person. It was moved that we donate \$100 to the ROTC for their Trophies, as this has been our policy in years past. Earl Peck seconded the motion. Motion carried. Our Scholarship fund currently is \$2,005 year to date.

Violet Smith announced that Flu Shot are still available at MacDill AFB – verify availability at 813-828-2273.

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



## Pearl Harbor, from Pg 3

landing within a few miles of the action; we were about 10 miles. For inexplicable reasons, we were ordered out of our massive, earthquake proof buildings to cover by a hibiscus hedge. While there (it was about 0900 hours) two P-40s took off from Wheeler and flew low over head. In spite of their clear US markings, practically everyone shot at them. A giant Hawaiian draftee grabbed my rifle and emptied the clip at the P-40s while I hung on his arm trying to stop him. They appeared unharmed and went on to do battle with the Japanese.

A staff sergeant collected a few of us to load a portable bridge on trucks. We hurried to Pearl City on the north shore of Pearl Harbor to guard an essential bridge for troop deployment. We left Schofield by way of Wheeler Field; what a burning, bomb cratered mess! We arrived at Pearl City as the second wave finished its attack. From our position, we looked down "battleship row," now in shambles—the smoking ruins of the Arizona, the capsized Oklahoma, the other battleships sunk or scuttled. All that day and night there was frantic rescue and recovery activity with frequent nervous automatic weapons fire.

Well after dark, a formation of aircraft, with running lights on, circled the Ford Island air field. As we later found out, they were part of the air group from one of the two carriers that, fortunately, were not at Pearl that morning. I suppose that due to radio silence or battle damage, they were unaware that Ford Island airfield was blocked by aircraft wreckage. When the lead aircraft added power to "go around," two 20 mm tracers came from a nearby beached ship. Immediately, these were joined by practically every gun at Pearl Harbor. The well lighted, slow moving aircraft were sitting ducks. Many were shot down here and at nearby airfields.

At that time, I was on guard duty on the banks of a cane field irrigation canal. Others joined me to watch the action. One surviving plane came low across the harbor straight at us. I can still see its bright running lights and its brilliant blue engine exhaust. As it neared, I heard objects hitting the dry sugarcane. It didn't take much of an IQ to realize that these were bullets. Prudence won overcoming curiosity, I jumped in the dry canal. By that time the scattering of bullets became a storm as a cone of tracers converged on this survivor. Two of the guys stayed on the bank, one looked down at me and said, "Hey Neville, come on up here. You won't see anything like this again." I stayed put.

We left Pearl City the next morning for our beach defense position. On the way, we received "friendly fire." Firing between units at phantom Japanese invaders continued for a number of days. When it became obvious that the Japanese had not landed on Oahu and that Hawaii's Japanese were loyal U. S. citizens, the troops were disarmed and the firing stopped.

**Prologue:** The day after Christmas, a friend and I hitchhiked to Honolulu and then to Pearl Harbor. Surprisingly, we had almost unrestricted access to the facilities and ships. We took a barge to Ford Island and battleship row. It was surreal; the battleships were moored adjacent to senior officers quarters which appeared to be

## November 2006

Operating Account:	
Income:	\$2,185.00
Expenses:	\$1,399.97
Cash Flow in:	\$785.03
Operating funds:	\$5,660.54

Scholarship Fund:	
Nov 1st	\$2,005.66
Donations:	\$240.00
Nov 22n3	\$2,245.66

Help Our Troops Fund:	
Nov 1st	\$1,624.01
Donations:	\$397.00
50/50:	\$0.00
Expended:	\$651.24
Oct. 22nd:	\$1,369.77

Comment: Most dues have been paid.

Maj. Pete Dawson, USAF (Ret)  
Treasurer



Late morning, December 7<sup>th</sup> – USS Maryland before being scuttled; USS Oklahoma after capsizing

still occupied by families. Clothes lines were full, lawns manicured, an island of domestic tranquility – with piles of destroyed aircraft in front of the quarters and sunken battleships behind.

As we walked along battleship row, passing the USS Maryland with its decks under water, we noticed an officer and sailor in whites stationed on the # 2 turret. They let us on board. We learned that with bomb damage to the hull and flooding difficult to control and the Japanese expected back, the captain scuttled the ship rather than possibly capsizing as has the Oklahoma. As the Maryland actually only had "light" damage, it was one of the first battleships repaired and returned to duty. —ARN





## Luncheon Meeting; 10 November 2006

Reported by **Basil Burrell**

**Attended—71: Members—35, AuxMbrs-8; Wives—20, Guests—7, Walk-ins—1, No shows—(1), Cancellations—(1)**

Our President, Don Freese opened the meeting and asked our Chaplain, George Brown to deliver the Invocation and then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Don then reminded us of a few things to keep in mind such as the U.S. Marine Corps “Toys For Tots” program. Toys will be picked up by representatives of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve from Tampa at our 15 December luncheon. Please bring new UNWRAPPED gifts for this worthy program. Second, our Installation Dinner will be held at the Treasure Island Yacht and Tennis Club on 19 January 2007. The festivities begin at 1730 hours. That is 5:30 PM for those who have forgotten how to translate from military to civilian time. The Club is located on the south side of Treasure Island Causeway. From St. Petersburg Central Ave heading west will take you to the Treasure Island bridge and thence the Causeway. If you need assistance call one of your Chapter officers or if you need a ride. Don also reminded us that the Treasure Island Yacht Club has accommodations for only 120 so get your reservations in early or you may be left out of a great evening. Parking should not be a problem.

Mrs Carolyn Shields gave us a rundown on the HOT program. She reminded us that the cost of shipping boxes to out troops in Afghanistan while only \$8.00 per box quickly adds up to a large sum when the number of boxes shipped is considered. Example: 100 boxes costs \$800.00 to ship and she has shipped over 100 boxes. Roger Shields told us at the board meeting that Carolyn has 30 boxes in their home to be shipped now.

Those of us who were able to attend this Veterans Day Luncheon were fortunate to hear a presentation by Col Scott Brumbaugh USAF who recently returned from the middle east where he commanded the Air Force tanker group. I don't know about the rest of you, but being very ignorant of the flying gas station concept, I learned a lot from Col Brumbaugh's presentation. It is absolutely amazing the quantity of fuel supplied to our aircraft by Air Force tanker planes. And there is more than one type of tanker too which enables fuel delivery to fast movers and those that are not so fast. I am led to

believe that even helicopters can be refueled in flight. How this is done I don't know, but it must be some kind of magic since the rotary wing would seem to get in the way of a fuel hose. Another thing I noticed is that officers of field grade or air grade (or whatever Colonels and such are called) seem to be getting very young. I wonder if flag officers are looking like ensigns now. I don't know because I don't have a reference to go by. Sorry General Peck!

We were honored and delighted that Mrs Angela Brumbaugh accompanied her husband. A charming lady and obviously as youthful as Col Brumbaugh. I wish I could remember all the statistics that impressed me so much but I was overwhelmed by the magnitude of the services provided by Col Brumbaugh's command.

Respectfully, Basil



Above center: our speaker, Col Scott Brumbaugh

Above: Martha Willis, Violet Smith and Angela and Scott Brumbaugh

Lower left: Janice Mogan

Lower right: Ron Merritt and Hank Curran



Merry Christmas to All





Above-George and Dorothy Brown  
Next-Ralph and Asa Myers  
End-Joe Jeffords

Right-Barbara Sims  
Far right-Paul & Betty Finley, Ed Diedo



Below left-Martha Willis, Margaret &  
Earl Peck  
Center-Sherry Freese  
End-Bob Sims and Jim King



### THE BUZZ

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

As reported last week, the Senate completed action on its version of the 2007 Military Construction and Veterans appropriations bill (HR 5385), making it ready for conference with the House, which approved its version of the veterans appropriations bill last May. NAUS has learned, however, that the measure, providing funding for the care and treatment of our sick and disabled veterans, has been sidetracked and completion of a final bill before the end of the 109th Congress is now in serious question. Apparently, a group of Republican Senators has taken action to prevent appointment of conferees and, thereby, stop the veterans appropriations bill from being ready for final consideration. The group, "fearing" that the conference will attract too many extraneous measures and become the vehicle for last-minute pork barrel spending, has combined to halt assignment of Senate conferees.

Senators Coburn (R-OK), DeMint (R-SC), and Sessions (R-AL) say that stopping the veterans funding bill from approving

veterans programs will stop passage of an earmark-laden omnibus spending package. It's the type of thinking that comes as a result of a negligent Senate that failed to act on this critical spending bill or any of the others that fund the programs and policies of the federal government prior to Oct.1, 2006, the start of the new fiscal year.

Outgoing Senate Majority Leader Sen. Bill Frist (R-TN) has informed the 110th Congress Majority Leader Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) that the Republican leadership plans to pass a stopgap spending measure (Continuing Resolution) that would last through January.

NAUS asks readers to express their outrage. Please contact Senators and let them know that veterans spending is a national priority and every effort should be expended to approve the 2007 veterans bill. Please use our NAUS CapWiz message service and send your Senator a Thanksgiving alert to support our troops and remember our veterans. Use this link <http://capwiz.com/naus/home/> and then click Urge Your Senator to Move the VA/Milcon bill.(from the NAUS – National Assoc of Uniformed Services)





MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
NORTHEAST FLORIDA CHAPTER (FL-18), INC.



**THE FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS  
STATE CONVENTION, MAY 10-14, 2007**  
CONVENTION AT SEA  
ABOARD THE CARNIVAL CRUISE SHIP "CELEBRATION"  
PROUDLY HOSTED BY THE

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS  
30th ANNUAL CONVENTION



**MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
NORTHEAST FLORIDA CHAPTER (FL-18), INC.**  
Post Office Box 442022, Jacksonville, FL 32222-2022

**SPECIAL GUEST**

**Vice Admiral Norbert R. Ryan, Jr., United States Navy, Retired**

President of the Military Officers Association of America

Chapter Website Convention Forms: <http://www.moaafl.org>

Contact: NE-FL, MOAA President CAPT Wayne Allen: [wayne-nancy@comcast.net](mailto:wayne-nancy@comcast.net)

Convention Chairmen: LCDR Susan Rucker 904-269-3463: [suet41@aol.com](mailto:suet41@aol.com)

CWO4 Steve Kerlin. 904 262-0209: [steve.kerlin@administar.net](mailto:steve.kerlin@administar.net)

**CONVENTION EVENTS**

May 10<sup>th</sup> Thursday

Presidents Reception (Thursday evening 5PM)

May 11<sup>th</sup> Friday:

Arrive Freeport

Military Mess Dress/Formal Dinner with Ship's Captain's reception

Dress Code for Military Dinner: Summer Mess Dress Uniform, Tuxedo/Formal gown, or Business Attire.

May 12<sup>th</sup> Saturday

Arrive Nassau Free day all day

May 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday

Memorial Service

Seminar with VIP Guest VADM Norbert R. Ryan, Jr., USN Ret

May 14<sup>th</sup> Monday

Return to Jacksonville 0800

Cruise Registration is at Discount rates: **\$200.00 Deposit NLT 15 December 2006, Final payment due 10 February 2007**

Please use the separate Cruise Registration form to secure your cabin. Cabins booked after 15 December will be priced at high prevailing rates. **Please reserve your cabin prior to submitting your Convention Registration.**

**You must book your cabin through our agent or you will not be registered for the convention nor allowed to attend the events.**

**CONVENTION RESERVATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

PLEASE MAIL THE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM TO:

MOAA-NE-FL

2007 Convention Registration

PO BOX 442022

Jacksonville, FL 32222-2022



**Merry Christmas to All**





## Recruit new Members

No new members as of November 27, 2006

## Nominations for 2007

### Board of Directors

**President** CAPT Don Freese, USN (Ret)

1<sup>st</sup> VP Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF (Ret)

2<sup>nd</sup> VP LTC Janice Mogan, USA (Ret)

Secretary Mrs. D Kay Benson, AuxMbr-AF

Treasurer Maj Peter Dawson, USAF (Ret)

### Executive Advisory Board

(Term Expires 31 December 2007)

Lt Col Dick Koch, USAF (Ret)

Lt Col Gary Gilchrist, USAF (Ret)

CAPT Bob Eynatten, USN (Ret)

(Term Expires 31 December 2008)

Col Bill Eisenhart, USAF (Ret)

COL H. B. Love, USA (Ret)

Col Sam Palmer, USAF (Ret)



## TAPS

Mrs. **Elsie Prall**, 11/21/06, Pg 39, 2006 Directory  
Spouse of: LTC **T. C. Prall**, USA (Ret),

Mrs. **Elizabeth Natzke**, 11/26/06, Pg 36, 2006 Directory,  
Spouse of LTC **R. H. Natzke**, USA (Ret)

## 2006 Scholarship Fund Donors

Mrs. Rosemary Arnim  
COL Dale Balke  
Mrs. Eleanor Baney  
Mrs. Ann Barton  
LTC Franklyn Bonnet  
Mrs. Marja Borrowes  
Col Carl Bowley  
LCDR Charles Brink  
CWO4 Basil Burrell  
Col Edward Caton  
Mrs. Marjorie Christy  
Maj Emery Cormier  
LCDR Martha Cormier  
Maj Peter Dawson  
Mrs. Jacqueline D'Louhy  
LCDR Alfred Dyson  
CAPT Richard Edwards  
LtCol Fred Edwards  
Col William Eisenhart  
CAPT Robert Eynatten  
Mrs. Beth Fenstermaker  
Lt Col Laurance Fernald  
Col John Flint MajGen  
Paul Fratarangelo  
CAPT Donald Freese  
CWO Richard Green  
LTC Brent Gudmundson  
COL John Heilman

CWO4 Robert Hodgen  
LCDR Frank Johnson  
LT Jacob Kelly  
CDR John Kersey  
CAPT Monroe King  
MAJ ED Lillich  
Col William Lofgren  
LTC Marie Lorence  
COL Heilbron Love  
Col Christian March  
LCDR Hazel McGrath  
1Lt Angelo Misuraca  
LTC Janice Mogan  
COL Landy Nelson  
Col Albert Neville  
Maj Gen Earl Peck  
Maj R. Reischmann  
Mrs. Louise Rozecki  
Mrs. Madeline Secor  
Mrs. June Simo  
Maj Bob Sims  
Mrs. Violet Smith  
COL Margaret Stafford  
LTC Marion Steinhilber  
Col Shirley Wetherby

**\$1,150 as of 11/25/06**

## 2006 Officers Call BOOSTER Donors

Mrs. Rosemary Arnim  
COL Dale Balke  
Mrs. Eleanor Baney  
LTC Franklyn Bonnet  
Mrs. Susanna Boutwell  
Col Carl Bowley  
LCDR Charles Brink  
COL George Brown  
CWO4 Basil Burrell  
Mrs. Marja Borrowes  
Col Gene Butler  
Col Edward Caton  
Mrs. Marjorie Christy  
Maj Emery Cormier  
Maj Peter Dawson  
Mrs. Jacqueline D'Louhy  
CAPT Richard Edwards  
Col William Eisenhart  
CAPT Robert Eynatten  
MajGen Paul Fratarangelo  
CAPT Donald Freese  
CWO Richard Green  
LTC Brent Gudmundson  
CAPT Thomas Harrow  
COL John Heilman  
Col Charles Hetherington  
Mrs. Anne Isley  
LT Jacob Kelly

CDR John Kersey  
CAPT Monroe King  
MAJ ED Lillich  
Col William Lofgren  
LTC Marie Lorence  
COL Heilbron Love  
Col Christian March  
LCDR Hazel McGrath  
MAJ John Middlemas  
1Lt Angelo Misuraca  
LTC Janice Mogan  
COL Landy Nelson  
Col Albert Neville  
Maj Gen Earl Peck  
Mrs. Marion Probeck  
Maj R. Reischmann  
MAJ Elmer Rowe  
Mrs. Louise Rozecki  
Mrs. Madeline Secor  
Mrs. June Simon  
Maj Bob Sims  
BG Paul Smith  
Mrs. Violet Smith  
LTC Marion Steinhilber  
Col Shirley Wetherby  
Capt Wm. Zurbrick

**\$2,100 as of 11/25/06**



**Grant Culverhouse**  
Sales & Leasing Consultant



*Cadillac*

**HUMMER**

**DEW CADILLAC**  
ST. PETERSBURG

Dew Cadillac, Inc.  
3333 Gandy Blvd.  
P.O. Box 20147  
St. Petersburg, FL 33742-0147

(727) 822-2019  
Toll Free (888) WILL-DEW  
Cell: (727) 408-1654  
www.dewcadillac.com

**Sir Speedy**

PRINTING • COPYING • DIGITAL NETWORK

FREE  
Pickup  
and  
Delivery

Call us for all of your printing  
and digital copying needs!

4855 Park Street North • St. Petersburg, FL 33709  
(727) 545-9000 • FAX (727) 546-9463  
sspark@tampabay.rr.com



Happy & Healthy New Year





## MOAA Legislative Update

21 September 2006

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

Symposium Panelists Dubious on Draft. Over 300 MOAA stalwarts and guests braved tornadic winds and driving rain to attend MOAA's Nov. 16 Military Professional Symposium, at which a distinguished panel of experts discussed whether the all-volunteer force (AVF) can be sustained in an extended conflict. Participants included: \* Gen. Barry McCaffrey, USA-Ret., former advisor to the Secretary of State and the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations; \* Hon. William Chatfield, Director of the Selective Service System; \* Hon. Mike Dominguez, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; \* Lt. Gen. Mike Rochelle, USA, Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, and \* Mr. Tom Donnelly, senior advisor for the International Security Program at the Center for Strategic International Studies.

If attendees expected any of the panelists to call for reinstitution of the draft, they were disappointed. One thing the panelists appeared to agree on - especially in their answers to multiple questioners on that topic after their prepared remarks - was their belief that Congress and the country wouldn't stand for that in any scenario short of a war for national survival. The panelists all agreed that the AVF today is clearly highly motivated, of superb quality, and more capable than the conscription force. General McCaffrey said that shortly after the draft was ended in the early 1970s, "You couldn't find a general in the Army who liked the all-volunteer force. But 10 years later, when they saw the quality they were getting, you couldn't find one who wanted to go back to the draft."

McCaffrey provided most of the symposium's fireworks, expressing strong views on adjustments in recruiting standards and force sizes. "Generally speaking, we've quadrupled the number of lowest mental category recruits, we've quadrupled the number of non-high school graduates, and we're granting 6,000 to 8,000 more moral waivers," he said. "When you tell me that you think enlisting a 42-year-old grandmother is the right thing to do, you don't understand what we're doing. We need 19-year-old boys and girls in good health to carry guns and fight." Several panelists highlighted an issue that MOAA has pushed for years - that today's forces are far too small for the huge missions that have been thrust upon them. "Are we undermanned?" asked McCaffrey. "Of course we are...we need our resources and our strategy to match our rhetoric...the active duty Army is 80,000 soldiers short, the Marines are 25,000 short, Coast Guard ought to [have] 75,000 people, the border patrol ought to be 45,000, and the National Guard 600,000."

On the positive side, Gen. Rochelle cited MOAA's aggressive support for Army Recruiting Command and its importance in helping achieve the Army's FY2006 recruiting mission. Considering the question whether the Army could get the volunteers to grow substantially in the current challenging recruiting environment without a draft, Gen. Rochelle asserted, "Unquestionably we can do it. We are richest nation on the face of the planet, the most gifted nation on the face of the planet. And we can do anything for which we as a nation have the political



Officers Call staff: Managing editor – COL Roger Shields;  
Consultant & proof reader – Johnnie Neville;  
Layout editor – Col Al Neville;  
Photo – CWO4 Basil Burrell, Photographer/reporter



Fred & Pauline Edwards

will." We hope to have a video summary of the symposium available on MOAA's Web site in the near future.

Gen. McCaffrey also has kindly granted permission for MOAA to use a clip in which he turned to MOAA President VADM Norb Ryan, Jr (USN-Ret) and praised MOAA's weekly legislative update. "You have the only computer-generated newsletter that I read in Washington," he said.

### COLA Watch

This week, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced the October 2006 monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is the metric used to calculate the annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for military retired pay, VA disability compensation, survivor annuities, and Social Security.

The Consumer Price Index indicates a downward start to a first quarter of the fiscal year by dropping 0.7 percent below the year's COLA base. The bulk of the downward fluctuation has been due to a 7.3% drop in energy prices.



## Sick List

(Contact LCDR Hazel McGrath, 545-3884)

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

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

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

Your cards, prayers and thoughts are welcome.

## December Birthdays

(50 to 91 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, Gene	Col	USAF (Ret)
30	Cormier, Martha	LCDR	USN (Ret)
31	Couture, Bertrand	COL	USA (Ret)
05	Edwards, Richard	CAPT	USN (Ret)
12	Foster, Willie	LTC	USA (Ret)
30	Harrow, Thomas	CAPT	USNR (Ret)
26	Healer, John	Maj	USAF (Ret)
24	Hodgen, Robert	CWO4	USAF (Ret)
01	Horne, Arleen	Mrs.	AuxMbr
12	Hubert, William	Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
29	Klein, Kathleen	1Lt	USAF (Fmr)
29	Klein, William	MG	USA (Ret)
07	Lillich, Edward	MAJ	USA (Ret)
13	Mahan, Allan-2	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)
18	Petkiewicz, Joe	LCDR	USN (Ret)
09	Reed, Robert	CDR	USN (Ret)
30	Schlager, Fred	CWO	USCG (Ret)
09	Slicker, Elsie	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
19	Starwyck, Stephen	CAPT	USN (Ret)

## INSTALLATION MEETING

5:30pm Social, 7pm Dinner, **Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

Treasure Island Tennis & Yacht Club  
ASD, Reserve Affairs, RADM T. Hall

• **Reservations by Monday January 15<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Each reservation \$25:**

Prime Rib / twice baked potatoes : \_\_\_\_\_.

Mahi Mahi Tropical / Fruit Salsa / Rice Pilaf: \_\_\_\_\_.

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

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 MEETING

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• **Reservations by Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Each reservation \$10:**

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

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

\*\*\* 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

**December 15<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** Christmas program  
Toys for Tots, USMC Reserve Unit

**January 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 5:30pm Social, 7pm Dinner,**  
Installation, Treasure Island Tennis & Yacht Club,  
400 Treasure Island Causeway, TI; ASD, Reserve  
Affairs, RADM Tom Hall.

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

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

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

**May 18<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** TBA

**Need a ride to lunch or installation?**  
**Call CAPT Bob Eynatten, 360-4637**

**December 4<sup>th</sup>** Monday;  
**January 8<sup>th</sup>** Monday (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday);  
**February 5<sup>th</sup>** Monday;  
**March 5<sup>th</sup>** Monday;  
**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** Monday;  
**May 7<sup>th</sup>** Monday;

## ROWC

**Luncheon** – (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday) 11:30, lunch 12:30

• **Reservations:** LTC Rose Munchbach 397-4146  
**Membership:** Martha Willis 579-4116.

- **12 DEC 2006** St Pete Yacht Club 11 Central Ave Avenue, St. Petersburg **Program:** Faith Presbyterian Church Choir
- **9 JAN 2007** My Big Fat Greek Restaurant - 4300 Park Blvd. Pk. **Program:** The Rose Place. Flower arranging.
- **13 FEB 2007** - Isla Del Sol - Yacht and Country Club. 6000 Sun Blvd. **Program:** Dot Phillips as Dolly Madison.
- **13 Mar. 2007** - Shells, 17855 Gulf Blvd. No. Redington Beach. **Program:** Steve Middents (Music)

**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

The St. Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA  
P.O. Box 7054  
St. Petersburg, FL 33734



Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
St. Petersburg, FL  
Permit # 1533

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

