



OFFICERS CALL

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



★★★★★ Five Star Chapter ★★★★★

Vol XV No.XII

December 2015

President's Comments:

The most difficult part of being the chapter president is writing this column each month. Having said that, I only have one more to write.

The easiest and most enjoyable part is representing each of you in the various MOAA functions. Because of all that you do, the job is really easy.

As most of you know, I had the pleasure of representing you and our chapter as the 2014 MOAA Levels of Excellence awards presented last month at the MOAA Annual Meeting in Orlando. I accepted, on your behalf, the 13th consecutive 5-Star award that our chapter has won. We have excelled in all that we have done, and we have met or exceeded the grading criteria that MOAA established for the 5-Star award...and the criteria is pretty tough.

Our chapter also was afforded another accolade. General Tony Robertson, USAF (Ret), chairman of the MOAA Board of Directors, announced during the main banquet that three chapters within MOAA had combined to contribute over \$210,000 to the MOAA Scholarship. General Robertson then announced the names of those chapters, and the St Petersburg Area Chapter was one of those named. Each of you were given a hearty round of applause for that effort.



This Annual Meeting was also bittersweet in that it was the last one for MOAA's outgoing President, VADM Norb Ryan, USN (Ret). Admiral Ryan led MOAA from the days of TROA into the present. And, through his leadership, MOAA is the pre-eminent military organization in Washington DC and the one that senators and congressman look to for answers. You can read more about Admiral Ryan in this months MOAA magazine, *Military Officer*...and please do.

As of today, there were still 65 of you who have yet to renew your chapter dues for 2016. If the chapter retains 95% of its membership, we will receive a \$250 "bonus" from MOAA. Second, and final, notices will be going out soon to those 65 chapter members. Please renew. And, remember, if you do not renew by 1 January, you will be dropped from the chapter roster.

Our annual Toys for Tots collection will be at the December luncheon. Please bring an unwrapped gift or three for a young boy or girl. We will collect them and get them to the Marine Reserves running the Toys for Tots program.

See you at the December luncheon on the 18th.

65 Members Not Renewed Their Chapter Membership. Please renew now.

INSIDE

Calendar and Contact List	Page 2
Luncheon Minutes	Page 3
Executive Committee Minutes	Page 3
Legislative Update	Page 5
Luncheon Photos	Page 6-7
Donations	Page 8
Financial Statement	Page 9
Birthdays	Page 8
TAPS	Page 9
New Members	Page 9
Sick List	Page 9
Upcoming Luncheon Information	Page 12



President Larry Fernald receiving our Five Star streamer from General Tony Robertson, USAF (Ret), MOAA's Chairman of the board. A note of interest Larry flew FB-111s with the General back in the day.



Officers Call

**Print Media Winner- 2006****Print Media 1st Runner-Up-2008 & 2010-11**

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- Photos – Col Bill Lofgren, USAF (Ret) 528-3946

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2nd Mrs Betty Finley AuxMbr-N 391-5908
Secretary- Mrs. Ginni Eichholz AuxMbr Spouse 347-9538
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 Mrs Evelyn Hamilton, AuxMbr-A 399-1272

2014 & 2015—

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 COL Roger Popham, USA (Ret) 498-6860
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Immediate Past President

LTC Terry Carr, USA (Ret) 459-4026

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VAMC Vol Svcs ...	Vacant
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Webmaster	Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF 522-6237

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 Larry-- 727-522-6237.

Luncheon Meetings The 3rd Friday — mixer
 11:00 - 11:45; luncheon program 11:45 - 13:15;
 Pasadena Yacht Club, Gulfport

CALENDAR

Dec 18th Suncoast Chorus**Jan 15th Installation****February 19^h****Marchov 18th****** Need a ride to the luncheon?****Call: Lt Col Larry Fernald 522-6237**

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

Dec 9th Wednesday**Jan 4th Monday****Feb 8th Monday**

MILITARY OFFICERS WIVES' CLUB

Luncheons:

- Next luncheon will be
 Tuesday Dec 8th Isla Del Sol Yacht and Country Club
 6300 Sun Blvd, St. Petersburg
 1130 hours

Luncheon Reservations:

Rose Munchbach, 727-397-4146

Membership Info:

- Fran Chancey 251-9653

Bridge: (3rd Tuesday of the month) **10:30 AM** at The Club Treasure Island

- Reservations or Information: Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272

Chapter Statistics

Total Membership	- 229
Regular Members	- 149
Auxiliary Members	- 55
AuxMbr-Spouse	- 25
Inactive Members	- 0

Military Services:

Army - 61	USMC - 10
USAF - 39	USCG - 7
Navy - 33	NOAA - 0

11/28/2015



Visit our Chapter Web Site =>



Minutes

Reported by **Ginni Eichholz**

Monthly Luncheon; 20 November 2015

Attended – 55: (55 reservations), 0 Member Guest, 4 Chapter Guests, 0 Walk in, 0 Cancel, 0 No Shows

The meeting was called to order by Larry Fernald at 1145. Following the invocation by George Brown and pledge of allegiance to our flag and country, Larry introduced the head table and asked Bill Lofgren to introduce new attendees. New member LTC David Peek, USA (Ret), was in attendance. Also visiting our chapter were Florida Council of Chapters President Marc Oliveri and his wife, Jeanine, as well as the FCOC Area VP, Skip Hartnet. Larry announced that chapter member Maj Gen Earl Peck was selected for induction into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame at a ceremony at the State Capital building on 1 December.



Door prize winner was won by Evey Hamilton. 50/50 winners were Margaret Peck and Skip Hartnet, both of whom donated their winnings to the Scholarship Fund.

Larry provided a brief summary of the MOAA Annual Meeting held the last weekend in October in Orlando. (Editors note: See the president's comments on page 1 for this summary)

Larry announced the slate of officers for 2016 and asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Receiving none, the nominations were closed and voting will be held at the December luncheon...or by mailing in the ballot in the November OC.

A brief recess followed where lunch was served and consumed.

Following lunch, Glen Crabb introduced our guest speaker (and son of Terry and Paulette Carr), Mark Strickland, Acting Provost for the Seminole Campus of St Petersburg College. Mark gave a very interesting presentation about the college, and specifically the Seminole Campus. Acting under the premise that "what is said at a MOAA luncheon does not leave the MOAA luncheon," Mark also provided some insight into some of the politics at SPC. All in all, it was very enlightening and entertaining.

Free Lunch Winners

(With respect to Robert Heinlein and Milton Friedman, there really is a FREE lunch)

New Members:

- **LTC David Peek, USA (Ret)**
- **Mrs. Betty Ponder, AuxMbr-A**
- **Mrs. Asa Myers, AuxMbr-AF**

Sponsors:

- **LTC Terry (USA Ret) and Paulette Carr**

Following Mark's presentation and a brief Q & A, Larry presented Mark with the traditional chapter glass set.

Following the benediction by George Brown, the meeting was adjourned at 1315.

Executive Committee Meeting 2 November 2015

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Glen Crabb at 11:30 am. Chaplain George Brown led the invocation. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Glen Crabb.

Motion made to accept minutes of October meeting as published. First and seconded by Pete Dawson and Terry Carr. Motion approved.

First Vice President Glenn Crabb reported the speaker for the November luncheon will be Mark Strickland, Provost at the Seminole Campus of St. Petersburg College. In December a Barbershop Quartet will sing Christmas Carols. We will also be collecting Toys for Tots at the luncheon. Evey Hamilton

Motion made to accept Treasurers report subject to audit. First and second by Pauline Edwards and Jim Patton. Treasurers report approved subject to audit.

Pauline Edwards reported that she was working on the menu for the installation luncheon.

On Sunday 6 December a Pearl Harbor Memorial service will be held at Belleair Country Club.

Motion made to approve the slate of new officers. First and second by Fran Shivers and Terry Carr.

Meeting adjourned at 11:56.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day in United States

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, which is annually on December 7, commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, during World War II. Many American service men and women lost their lives or were injured on December 7, 1941. National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is also referred to as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day or Pearl Harbor Day.

What Do People Do?

On the direction of the President, the flag of the United States of America should be displayed on the homes of Americans, the White House and all United States government buildings. The flag should be flown at half-mast to honor those who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Many associations, especially those linked with Pearl Harbor survivors or those who died from the attack, participate in special services to commemorate the event. Memorial services are held at venues such as the USS Arizona Memorial in Pearl Harbor. Other activities include: wreath-laying ceremonies; keynote speeches by those associated with the event; luncheons; media stories on survivors' recollections of the Pearl Harbor attack; and school activities to educate students about the attack on Pearl Harbor in relation to World War II history.



BALLOT FOR 2016 OFFICERS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, DEC 18, 2015

Complete & bring to Nov. 21st luncheon meeting, or mail to the Chapter P. O. Box.

President: **COL Roger E. Popham, USA (Ret)**

1st Vice Pres.: **LTC William R. Eichholz, USA (Ret)**

2nd Vice Pres.: **Mrs Pauline Edwards, AuxMbr-MC**

Secretary: **Mrs Ginni Eichholz, AuxMbr-Sp**

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

Executive Advisory Board

(Term Expires December 31, 2016)

CAPT Peter Gunderson, USNR (Ret)
(replacing LTC William Eichholz)

Term Expires December 31, 2017)

LTC Frances Chancey, USA (Ret)
LTC Pauline Mallory, USA (Ret)
Capt Paul Williams, USAFR (Ret)

I ACCEPT THE SLATE AS LISTED

Signature: _____

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

The St Petersburg Area Chapter Military Officers Association of America

2016 Installation Luncheon

Friday, 15 January 2016
Pasadena Yacht Club
6300 Pasadena Point Blvd South., Gulfport, FL

Noon to 1:30 PM Luncheon

Menu;

Prime Rib with au jus
Chicken Pasadena, pan seared, topped with baked peaches
Mahi Mahi, topped with tropical fruit salsa

Desert; speciality cake

RSVP: Not Later Than 10 January 2016 by mailing payment \$28 per person and meal choice to:

Pauline Edwards
7979 Sailboat Key Blvd. #607
S Pasadena, FL 33707-6356
727-360-2936

VA Makes Changes to Veterans Choice Program

Posted on December 2, 2015

by Donnie La Curan

in Veteran News

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced a number of changes to make participation in the Veterans Choice Program easier and more convenient for Veterans who need to use it. The move, which streamlines eligibility requirements, follows feedback from Veterans along with organizations working on their behalf.

“As we implement the Veterans Choice Program, we are learning from our stakeholders what works and what needs to be refined,” said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. “It is our goal to do all that we can to remove barriers that separate Veterans from the care they deserve.” To date, more than 400,000 medical appointments have been scheduled since the Veterans Choice Program went into effect on November 5, 2014.

Under the old policy, a Veteran was eligible for the Veterans Choice Program if he or she met the following criteria:

- Enrolled in VA health care by 8/1/14 or able to enroll as a combat Veteran to be eligible for the Veterans Choice Program;
- Experienced unusual or excessive burden eligibility determined by geographical challenges, environmental factors or a medical condition impacting the Veteran’s ability to travel;
- Determined eligible based on the Veteran’s current residence being more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest VA medical facility.

Under the updated eligibility requirements, a Veteran is eligible for the Veterans Choice Program if he or she is enrolled in the VA health care system and meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Told by his or her local VA medical facility that they will not be able to schedule an appointment for care within 30 days of the date the Veteran’s physician determines he/she needs to be seen or within 30 days of the date the Veteran wishes to be seen if there is no specific date from his or her physician;
- Lives more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest VA medical facility with a full-time primary care physician;
- Needs to travel by air, boat or ferry to the VA medical facility closest to his/her home;
- Faces an unusual or excessive burden in traveling to the closest VA medical facility based on geographic challenges, environmental factors, a medical condition, the nature or simplicity or frequency of the care needed and whether an attendant is needed. Staff at the Veteran’s local VA medical facility will work with him or her to determine if the Veteran is eligible for any of these reasons; or

See Choice Page 8





MOAA Legislative Update

Edited by **Jim Patton**

From MOAA and other sources

National Defense Authorization Act 2016 - Modernized Retirement



BACKGROUND: Congress passed and the President signed into law the National Defense Authorization Act of 2016 that features the new modernized military retirement system. The new retirement system is effective Jan. 1, 2018, and is designed to maintain readiness and retain talent in an increasingly competitive labor market. The new retirement system is also intended to provide service members who serve less than 20 years with a portable retirement benefit.

The Jan. 1, 2018 effective date allows for adequate education and training of the workforce (especially recruiters, career counselors), as well as the time required to develop and field additional financial training programs and tools (e.g., retirement calculators).

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- It is the highest priority of all the Armed Services – to attract and retain the highest quality workforce possible to defend and secure our nation. This new modernized retirement system gives the services new tools to compete in a constantly evolving labor market.
- The modernized system is a blend of a 20-year defined benefit and a defined contribution plan that allows service members to contribute to a portable Thrift Saving Plan account.
- All service members currently serving will be grandfathered under the present military retirement system.
- Members with fewer than 12 years of service as of Dec. 31, 2017, will have the option to remain in the current system or opt into the modernized military retirement system.
- Members entering the service after Jan. 1, 2018 will automatically be enrolled in the new modernized retirement system.
- Members will be auto-enrolled in a TSP account upon entry to military service and contribute three percent of their basic pay. Following initial entry training each member will be able to elect their own TSP contribution level, up to five percent of their basic pay.
- If a member desires to opt out of the TSP contribution for a particular year, they will automatically be renewed at three percent the following year.
- After completion of 60 days of service, the services will automatically contribute one percent of a service member's basic pay (or Inactive Duty Pay for a Selected Reserve member) to the member's TSP account. This will continue until the member separates, retires, or reaches 26 years of service. This contribution is automatic and does not change during a member's career.

• After two years of service, the services will match the service member's contribution up to an additional four percent (for a maximum of five percent) and continue until the member separates, retires, or reaches 26 years of service.

• Members will be fully vested (own the government contributions) in their TSP account after two years of service.

• After 20 years of service, a service member will be eligible to receive a defined benefit multiplier of two percent (it's currently 2.5 percent). A member retiring may choose to receive a lump-sum payment of either 25 or 50 percent of the total retirement benefit and a reduced monthly payout.

• The new plan also adds a cash incentive, Continuation Pay with accompanying obligated service, to ensure retention beyond 12 years of service and provide additional income during a service member's career. The service will offer continuation pay between 2.5 and 13 times one month's basic pay for active duty and between 0.5 and six times one month's IDT pay for reserve. Any member who elects to receive Continuation Pay will incur a four-year service obligation.

• Full implementation of the modernized retirement plan requires additional planning on the part of each individual Service.

Retirement Reform and You

November 25, 2015

Military retirement is going to look a lot different in 2018. In order to provide up to a five percent government match to servicemembers' federal Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) accounts, military retirement will be cut by 20 percent for new service entrants starting that year, as will their future disability retirement calculation. The new blended retirement system comes with lots of unpredictable variables, including fund choice, return rates, member contributions, inflation, cost-of-living increases, the economy, etc. Servicemembers will be taking on much more responsibility for managing their own retirement and need to be informed about their financial options. If you entered the service in 2006 or later, you'll have a choice between keeping the current retirement plan or electing the new one. In that case, you'll want to know all of the considerations involved, and discuss them with your peers and family.

No COLA in 2016

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released the September inflation figure this week and confirmed what most retirees already knew – there won't be a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in 2016 for people collecting military retired pay, Social Security, VA compensation, or survivor benefits. Falling gas prices are a key reason why the inflation index (and your COLA) tanked over the summer. Retired pay increases are made each year to maintain the same level of purchasing power each servicemember had at retirement. This is accomplished through annual COLAs, which are based on the BLS' Consumer Price Index (CPI) – the measure of inflation. While

See COLA Pg 8



Chaplain George Brown delivered invocation



Guest Speaker Mark Strickland



Larry Fernald presenting Mark with chapter gift



1st VP Glen Crabb introducing guest speaker



Rose Munchbach with 50/50 winner Margaret Peck



MOAA Florida Council of Chapters President Mark and Jeanine Oliveri



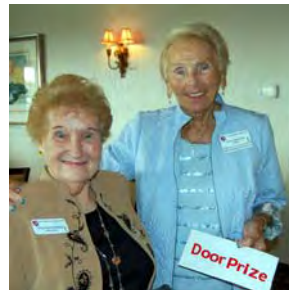
MOAA West Central Area Vice President Skip Hartnet



New member David Peek



Rose Munchbach and 50/50 winner Skip Hartnet



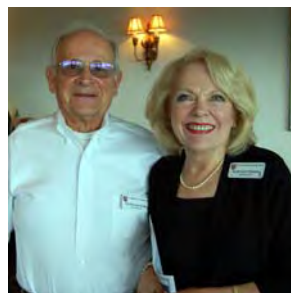
Pauline Edwards with Door Prize winner Evey Hamilton



Dave and Pauline Mallory



David and Carol Sjorland



Tony and Alice Quattromani



Van and Carol Barnes



Sherry Freese



Immediate Past President Terry and Paulette Carr with son and guest speaker Mark Strickland



Visitors from Kentucky Jim and Jo Ward



Stan Beach, Glen Crabb and Ellen Beach





Barb Fernald and Photographer Bill Lofgren



Ed and Chris Lillich



2nd VP Betty and Paul Finley



Heikki and Inne Lee Joonsar



Maureen Connors



Midge Slowak and Dr Jim Ward



Margaret and Bill Lewis



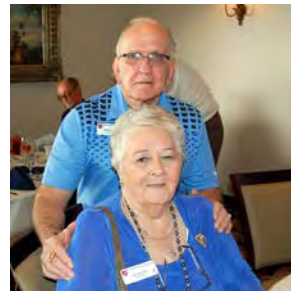
Jim and Barbara King



Ellen Marie and Ken Fine



Margaret and Earl Peck



Bruce and Julia Love



Anne Isley



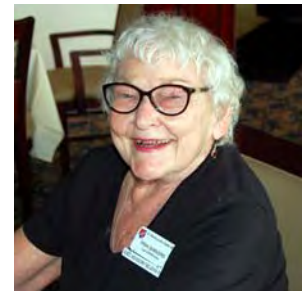
Bill Lee and Peter Gunderson



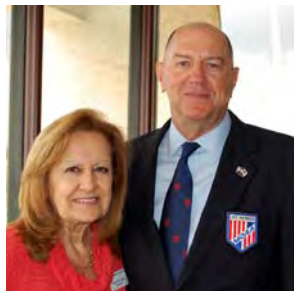
Buck Williams



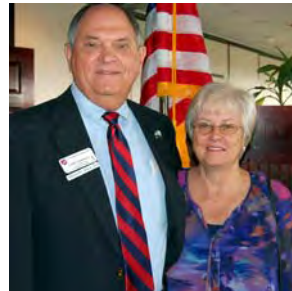
George Stenehjem



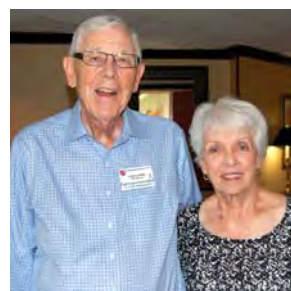
Fran Shivers



Paulette and Past President Terry Carr



Current President Larry and Barb Fernald



Glen and Katie Crabb

Photos

If you would like a copy of your monthly luncheon photo taken by Bill Lofgren, please notify him of your correct email address at the following email address: papabill77@outlook.com

Photos by Bill Lofgren



2015 Scholarship Fund Donors (Includes donations to National MOAA)

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

••GOLD –

Barnes, Carol COL
Barnes, Van 1LT
Bartlett, Bill CAPT
Bolin, Bill CDR
Carr, Paulette Mrs.
Carr, Terry LTC
Crabb, Glen CDR
Crabb, Katie Mrs.
Dawson, Pete Maj
Edwards, Pauline Mrs.
Fernald, Larry Lt Col
Flint, John Col
In Memory of Tom Spears
Isley, Anne Mrs
Landers, Joan Mrs.
Langston, Gregg Lt Col
Lillich, Ed MAJ
Lofgren, Bill Col
Love, H. B. COL
Milford, John Lt Col
Neville, Johnnie Mrs.
Palmer, Stew Col
Patton, Jim CWO4
Patton, Kathi Mrs.
Peck, Earl Maj Gen
Phillips, Bettye Mrs.
Schoeppner, John Maj Gen
Sjolund, Dave and Carol
Smith, Violet Mrs.

Summers, Stormy Col
Talbitzer, John LT
Vitters, Cindy LTC

••SILVER –

Augustine, June Lt Col
Christie, Robert LtCol
Fowler, Wilma Mrs.
Gunderson, Pete CAPT
Hetherington, Chuck COL
Kirkland, Doug CDR
Lewis, Bill Lt Col
Maxson, Paul Lt Col
Sims, Bob Maj
Warren, David LTC

••BRONZE –

Briggs, Margaret Mrs.
Edwards, Richard CAPT
Eichholz, Bill LTC
Gioe, Shirley Mrs.
Hartnet, Skip Maj
Hermann, Peter Col
Holecek, John LTC
Mallory, Pauline LTC
Peck, Margaret Mrs.
Quattromani, Tony LTC
Reed, Bob CDR
Sartorio, Sal Maj
Schlager, Fred CWO4
Tondreau, Herb CWO4
Walters, Bobbie Mrs.

Member donations ONLY:
\$4,344 as of 11/28/2015

COLA from Pg 5

most COLA increases are automatic, Congress must approve COLAs for veterans every year. This is largely so lawmakers can return to their home districts and say they did something for local constituents. One question we get every year is “Why is the retired pay COLA (higher or lower) than the active duty pay raise?” The simple answer is they’re tied to different things. COLAs are tied to changes in consumer prices, whereas active duty pay raises are (supposed to be) tied to the average American’s pay growth, as measured by BLS’ Employment Cost Index (ECI). In many years from the mid-1970’s through the mid-90’s, COLAs were higher than active duty pay raises, primarily because active duty pay raises were capped below the ECI. The track record for keeping annual retired pay COLAs up with the CPI has been far better, in part because inflation has been relatively low for many years. In the late 1990’s, chronic retention problems (from all those years of pay raise caps) led Congress to plus up active duty pay, so those raises were larger than COLAs from 1997-2005.

2015 Help Our Troops 2015 Heaven on Earth Donors

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

••GOLD –

Alvarez, Jeanne Mrs.
Augustine, June Lt Col
Bartlett, Bill CAPT
Binzer, Bill Col
Bolin, Bill CDR
Carr, Paulette Mrs.
Carr, Terry LTC
Edwards, Pauline Mrs.
Fernald, Larry Lt Col
Fine, EllenMarie Mrs.
Fine, Ken MAJ
Gioe, Shirley Mrs.
Harrison, Christa Mrs.
Holmes, Lee LTC
Isley, Anne Mrs
Johnson, Mardi Mrs.
Kottich, Chuck COL
Landers, Joan Mrs.
Lofgren, Bill Col
Love, H. B. COL
Maxson, Paul Lt Col
Milford, John Lt Col
Misuraca, A. J. 1st Lt
Neville, Johnnie Mrs.
Palmer, Stew Col
Patton, Jim CWO4
Patton, Kathi Mrs.
Peck, Earl Maj Gen
Phillips, Bettye Mrs.

Quattromani, Tony LTC
Schoeppner, John Maj Gen
Sims, Bob Maj
Sjolund, Dave and Carol
Smith, Violet Mrs.
Talbitzer, John LT
Vitters, Cindy LTC
Warren, David LTC

••SILVER –

Bax, Giles COL
Burch, Jo Ann, LTC
Hansen, Gidge CPT
Hermann, Peter Col
Hetherington, Chuck Col
Lewis, Margaret Mrs.
Myers, Asa Mrs.
Reed, Bob CDR
Sartorio, Sal Maj
Taylor, Joanne MAJ
Terry, Frederick COL
Tondreau, Herb CWO4
Trahan, Creighton LTC
Walters, Bobbie Mrs.

••BRONZE –

Edwards, Richard CAPT
Hamilton, Rosemary Mrs.
Lee, Bill LCDR
Mallory, Pauline LTC
Schlager, Fred CWO4
Shivers, Fran Capt
White, Jim COL

Member donations ONLY:
\$ 3,234 as of 11/28/2015

Help Our Troops (HOT)

**The SPA-MOAA Executive Board voted to support
Heaven on Earth, a St Petersburg based support
organization for veterans.**

Choice from Pg 4

•Lives in a State or Territory without a full-service VA medical facility which includes: Alaska, Hawaii, New Hampshire (Note: this excludes New Hampshire Veterans who live within 20 miles of the White River Junction VAMC) and the United States Territories (excluding Puerto Rico, which has a full service VA medical facility).

Veterans seeking to use the Veterans Choice Program or wanting to know more about it, can call 1-866-606-8198 to confirm their eligibility and to schedule an appointment. For more details about the Veterans Choice Program and VA’s progress, visit: www.va.gov/opa/choiceact.





TAPS

CPT Elza Ponder, USA (Ret)
31 Oct 2015

2LT Thomas H. Speairs, USA (Ret),
12 Nov 2015

Our thoughts and prayers are with family and friends.

Sick List

Your cards, prayers, and thoughts are welcome.
(Contact **Mrs. Virginia Balke, 544-3598**)

- ◆ **Lt Col John Milford, USAF (Ret)**
- ◆ **Col Mildred "Gene" Butler, USAF Ret)**
- ◆ **CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG (Ret)**
- ◆ **Mrs. Bobbie Walters, AuxMbr-A**

December Birthdays (57 to 97 years)

Day	LName	FName	Rank	SVC
18	Adams	Barbara	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
26	Barkalow	Carol	LTC	USA (Ret)
07	Butler	Jerome	COL	USA (Ret)
28	Butler	Mildred (Gene)	Col	USAF (Ret)
21	Butterfield	Larry	LTJG	USN (Fmr)
05	Edwards	Richard	CAPT	USN (Ret)
21	Harrow	Anita	Mrs.	AuxMbr-N
7	Joonsar	Heikki	Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
29	Klein	William	MG	USA (Ret)
07	Lillich	Chris	Mrs.	AuxMbr-Spouse
05	Lillich	Edward	MAJ	USA (Ret)
10	Osborn	Duane	LTC	USA (Ret)
09	Reed	Robert	CDR	USN (Ret)
30	Schlager	Fred	CWO4	USCG (Ret)
27	Simmons	Eleanor	Mrs.	AuxMbr-Spouse
25	Stenehjem	George	COL	USA (Ret)
4	Terwilliger	William	MAJ	USA (Ret)
30	Wall	Harold J.	CPT	USA (Fmr)

RENEWALS

As of 30 November, 164 of our 229 (72%)
members had renewed their membership for
2016.

Those 65 members who have yet to renew will be
dropped from the Chapter roster on 1 Jan 2016.

Financial Report Summary for the Month of October

HOT Fund

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 5,691.62
..... Donations	\$ 1,507.00
..... 50/50	\$ 32.00
..... Expenses	\$ 2,236.30
..... HOT Balance, End of Month	\$ 4,994.32

Scholarship Fund

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 1,282.00
..... Memorials	\$ 00.00
..... Donations	\$ 1,580.00
..... Expended	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 2,862.00

Operating Account

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 2,275.19
..... Luncheon Income	\$ 838.00
..... Dues	\$ 1,450.00
..... Misc Income	\$ 0.00
..... Interest Earned	\$ 0.48
..... Luncheon Expense	\$ (854.00)
..... Supplies	\$ (65.00)
..... Post Office	\$ (0.98)
..... Honraria/donations	\$ 0.00
..... Other Organizations	\$ 0.00
..... Memorial to Scholarship	\$ 0.00
..... Printing/mailling	\$ 0.00
..... Newsletter Costs	\$ (418.72)
..... VA/JROTC	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 3,224.97



Welcome Our New Members!

- ◆ **Peek, David A., LTC, USA (Ret),** 13014 98th Ave, Seminole, FL 33773, 727-392-1420
- ◆ **Ponder, Mrs. Betty, AuxMbr-Army,** 7142 40th Place N, Lot 70, St Petersburg, FL 33709-4506, 727-343-0148
- ◆ **Myers, Mrs. Asa, AuxMbr-Air Force,** 12959 Farmington Trail, Seminole, FL 33776-3526, 727-392-5089

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Battle of The Bulge

In late 1944, during the wake of the Allied forces' successful D-Day invasion of Normandy, France, it seemed as if the Second World War was all but over. On Dec. 16, with the onset of winter, the German army launched a counteroffensive that was intended to cut through the Allied forces in a manner that would turn the tide of the war in Hitler's favor. The battle that ensued is known historically as the Battle of the Bulge. The courage and fortitude of the American Soldier was tested against great adversity. Nevertheless, the quality of his response ultimately meant the victory of freedom over tyranny



Visit our Chapter Web Site =>





Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

By Michele Costello, Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

Formerly, MOAA defined “auxiliary members” as the survivors of former national MOAA members who are deceased or as the survivors of deceased individuals who would, if living, be eligible for membership. These members now will be classified as “surviving spouses.” Affiliate leaders should incorporate this change in their publications, websites, and officer rosters.

After a year or more of construction, MOAA’s new website now is complete. The new website launched Sept. 1. MOAA’s new super highway to information was rebuilt and contains new signage and exit ramps that offer easy access to a wealth of valuable military- and legislative-related information, interesting and informative publications, and opportunities to take action on legislative issues that affect servicemembers and their families. The site also boasts MOAA’s new modern logo. As noted by members of the board of directors’ Communications Committee, “It is a work in progress, with adjustments occurring continuously.” However, the website already provides members and visitors with better access and navigation tools.

At the top of the home page, you’ll find several membership categories with drop-down menus. The “Currently Serving” category offers avenues for “Jr. Officers,” “Mid-grade Officers,” and “Sr. Officers.” The “Retirees” category offers a choice between “Early Retirees” or “Retired.” Select “Former Officers,” and you’ll find career and financial-planning information. The “Family” category is divided into “Surviving Spouses” and “Spouses.” If you select the “Chapters & Councils” category, you’ll find information on “Chapter Recruiting,” “Council and Chapter Management,” “Officer Form,” “Enewsletters,” and more.

The home page also contains links to “Benefits & Discounts,” available through MOAA, “Events,” and more. Be sure to follow the “Take Action” link to learn about MOAA’s top legislative issues. Then visit the “Legislative Action Center” to contact your congressional legislators. Those emails and letters do make a difference!

The home page was designed to emphasize a particular legislative issue or news item. Remember, when navigating MOAA’s new website, you’ll need to scroll down in order to see everything. Users will know they have reached the bottom of a Web page when they see the motto, “Never Stop Serving.” From there, you can link quickly to social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, In, YouTube, and MOAA Connect.

The “Surviving Spouses” Web page, which is undergoing construction, can be accessed from the home page by selecting “Family” and then “Surviving Spouses” from the drop-down menu. The Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee (SSAC) submitted recommendations to ensure as much information as possible can be accessed easily by surviving spouses who are deal-

ing with the loss of their servicemember spouse. Pay and benefits, publications, personal affairs, and legislative issues, such as repealing the Survivor Benefit Plan/Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (SBP/DIC) offset, are only some of the areas that will be covered.

Finally, it’s easy to add a shortcut to MOAA’s home page on the screen of your cellphone.

For Apple iPhones:

1. Open Safari and type in www.moaa.org to access MOAA’s website.

2. At the bottom, you will see a box with an arrow pointing upward. Tap it, and then scroll over until you see “Add to Home Screen.” You can rename the icon, or leave it as “MOAA — Home.”

3. Tap “Add” in the top-right corner of the screen. The shortcut to MOAA’s home page now should appear as an icon on your cellphone.

For Android Phones using Chrome:

1. Open Chrome and type in www.moaa.org.

2. Once the website is loaded, tap the menu icon. (Look for stacked lines at the top of the page near Login.)

3. Tap the star icon. Rename the title if you want, and then tap “Save.”

Questions to Ponder

1. If you shouldn’t drink and drive, why do you need a driver’s license to buy liquor, and why do bars have parking lots?
2. If you got into a taxi and he started driving backwards, would the driver end up owing you money?
3. If you spend your day doing nothing, how do you know when you’re done?
4. If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn’t the plural of booth beeth?
5. If you take a shower, where do you put it?
6. If a turtle doesn’t have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
7. Is it true that cannibals don’t eat clowns because they taste funny?
8. Why is abbreviation such a long word?
9. Why is it called a tv set if you only get one?
10. If its zero degrees outside today and it’s supposed to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold is it going to be?
11. Isn’t it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do “practice”?
12. Why isn’t there mouse-flavored cat food?
13. Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
14. If you keep trying to prove Murphy’s Law, will something keep going wrong?
15. If vegetarians eat vegetables, what do humanitarians eat?



St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA

Monthly Luncheon

Friday
18 December 2015

Pasadena Yacht Club
6300 Pasadena Point Blvd. South,
Gulfport. FL

11:45 AM - 1:15 PM
Social Hour 11:00 to 11:45
Program Begins at 11:45

Entertainment:
Suncoast Chorus

TOYS FOR TOTS



U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE

Please join us to help support the United States Marine Corps and their efforts to ensure that the children in Pinellas County have the opportunity to experience a joyful and happy holiday.

Toys for Tots requests that toys be:

- Only new, unwrapped toys in their commercial packaging,
- Toys for ages 0-12,
- Teen Items: (sports equipment, cd players, iPod, skate boards, beauty tools (hair dryers, flat irons, please... no makeup or jewelry).
- New Bikes of all sizes (preferably assembled)... Biggest need would be 20" and 24".
- Please securely attach batteries and crayons to the items that they are with.

Toys for Tots will not accept: used toys of any kind, hand-made toys, toys not commercially wrapped, gift cards, clothing of any kind, non-toy items (except the teen items listed above), food or candy of any kind, bagged items (items must be visible or in commercially packaged), or gift wrapped items.

There will be a representative from the Marine Corps at the December luncheon to accept the toys.

11:45 AM - 1:15 PM, December 18th 2015

Pasadena Yacht Club

6300 Pasadena Point Blvd South., Gulfport, FL

• **Reservations MUST be in by Sun, December 13th**

Name: _____

Each reservation \$16:

Pan Fried Chicken: _____

Salmon Provencal: _____

ALL: salad, rolls butter and tea and coffee and peppermint stick ice cream

Reservations call;

Pauline Edwards 727-360-2936

Pauline@tampabay.rr.com

(If no answer please leave message) or

Evelyn Hamilton 727-399-1272

To expedite entry, please have checks prepared before arrival.

For a RIDE call:

Lt Col Larry Fernald 522-6237



December

7: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

13 National Guard est 1636:

25: Christmas Day



Visit our Chapter Web Site =>

