



OFFICERS CALL

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



★★★★★ Five Star Chapter ★★★★★

Vol XV No.I

January 2015

President's Comments:

Everyone seemed to enjoy our speaker Ruth Rymal at the December luncheon meeting. She is passionate in what she does, and I am sure it shows in the results she achieves. It was also great to have the Marines there. Thanks to all who contributed to the Toys for Tots program. I also enjoyed singing Christmas carols with everyone there, and just wish we had had a little more time for some additional songs. While I know another Christmas will have come and gone by the time these remarks are read, I hope everyone had the best Christmas possible and rang in the New Year with a sense of optimism that 2015 will be our best year ever.



Once again, I thank the nominating committee for the work done to fill our Chapter Officer and Board nominations, and to all those agreeing to serve this coming year. We are still in need of someone to step forward for a couple of committees.

I would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know it was an honor to serve as your Chapter President for the last three years and to represent you at numerous Florida Council and National MOAA meetings. I wish my successor and everyone else serving the very best year possible.

Our next meeting is our annual installation banquet on 16 January, at the Bayou Club. I hope to see everyone there.

Heaven on Earth for Veterans, Inc.

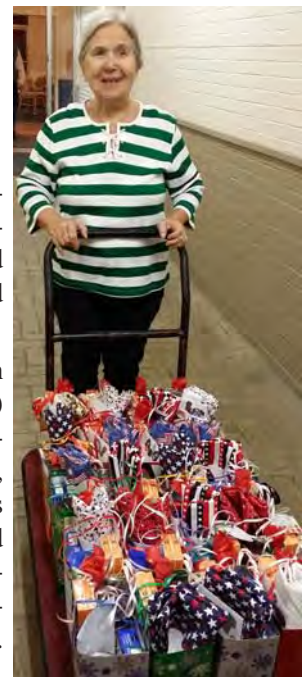


MOAA members Carol Barkalow and Sheila Mutascio founders of HOEV

Our chapter has taken on the support of Heaven on Earth for Veterans. Just recently twenty six bags and 5 welcome baskets were presented to the residents.

Founded in March 2013, Heaven on Earth for Veterans, Inc. (HOEV) provides quality living spaces for veterans in need. HOEV is a 501(c)(3), non-profit status. The organization's founders include 3 women: a retired Army officer, a real estate entrepreneur and a communications specialist with a background in non-profits.

HOEV purchases and fully furnishes houses in Pinellas County to offer living spaces for veterans who cannot afford to own or rent



Anita Harrow with gifts for HOEV

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to the residents of the Bahia Del Mar condo who graciously donated to our HOT fund. Special recognition to Vida Meilus who collected the checks and presented them to our HOT chairperson, Anita Harrow, at the December luncheon meeting.

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RENEWALS

As of 26 December, 197 of our 248 (79%) members had renewed their membership for 2015.

Those 51 members who have yet to renew will be dropped from the Chapter roster on 1 Jan 2015.



Officers Call

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

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- Editor – CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG (Ret) 393-4160
- Photos – Col Bill Lofgren, USAF (Ret) 528-3946

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**DIRECTORS**

President- LTC Terry Carr, USA (Ret) 459-4026
 1st VP- CDR Glen Crabb, USN (Ret) 561-0697
 2nd VP- MAJ Joanne Taylor, USA (Ret) 388-2384
 Secretary- Mrs. Chris Lillich Spouse-A 546-2246
 Treasurer- Maj Pete Dawson, USAF (Ret) 894-3761

EXECUTIVE ADVISORY BOARD**2014 & 2015 —**

LTC Duane "Ozzie" Osborn, USA (Ret) 570--8817
 COL Roger Popham, USA (Ret) 498-6860
 Capt Frances "Fran" Shivers, USAFR (Fmr) ... 347-9538

2013 & 2014—

CDR Maureen Conners, USN (Ret) 347-7976
 LTCol Robert Palsha, USA (Ret) 391-6431
 Mrs Pauline Edwards, AuxMbr-MC 360-2936

Immediate Past President

MAJ Ed Lillich, USA (Ret) 546-2246

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising	Vacant	
Auxiliary Liaison .	Mrs Anita Harrow, AuxMbr-N .	367-9050
Awards	Vacant	
Chaplain	COL George Brown, USA	866-6859
Chaplain Ass't	COL Mike Day, USA	394-9151
Database Manager	Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF	522-6237
Help Our Troops	Mrs Anita Harrow, AuxMbr-N .	367-9050
Honor Guard Coord	MAJ Ed Lillich, USA	546-2246
Historian:	CDR Maureen Conners, USN ..	954-0482
Hospitality	CDR Glen Crabb, USN	561-0697
Installation Cerem	Vacant	
JROTC	MAJ Ed Lillich, USA	546-2246
Law:	Vacant	
Legislative:	CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG	393-4160
MacDill Ret Actv	Lt Col Bill Lewis, USAF	480-6766
Master at Arms	Vacant	
Membership	Vacant	
MOWC Liaison ...	Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A ..	595-5543
Newsletter	CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG	393-4160
Nominating Cmte	Col Bill Lofgren, USAF	528-3946
Parliamentary	Col Bill Lofgren, USAF	528-3946
Personal Affairs ...	Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A ..	595-5543
Pinellas Co Vet Lia	MAJ Ed Lillich, USA	546-2246
Programs	CDR Glen Crabb, USN	561-0697
Publicity:	Pauline Edwards, AuxMbr-MC .	360-2936
Reservations	Pauline Edwards, AuxMbr-MC .	360-2936
Scholarships:	Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF	522-6237
TOPS	Vacant	
VAMC Vol Svcs ...	Vacant	
Vet Liaison	MAJ Ed Lillich, USA	546-2246
Visitation	Mrs Virginia Balke AuxMbr-A .	544-3598
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;
 Banquet Masters, 13355 49th St. N., Clearwater

CALENDAR

January 16th Installation
February 20th Lewis Hoffman
March 20th
April 17th

**** Need a ride to the luncheon?
 Call: LTC Terry Carr 459-4026**

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.

January 5th Monday
February 2nd Monday
March 2nd Monday

MILITARY OFFICERS WIVES' CLUB

Luncheons:

- Next luncheon will be
 Tuesday January 13th Banquet Masters
 1130 hours 13355 49th Street
 Clearwater

Luncheon Reservations:

- Rose Munchbach, 727-397-4146 or
 Barbara Walters, 727-595-4619

Membership Info:

- Barbara King 391-2564

Bridge: (1st Wednesday of the month) 10:30 AM

Banquet Masters, **13355 49th Street N, Clearwater.**

- Reservations or Information: Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272

Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 248
 Regular Members - 160
 Auxiliary Members - 88
 Inactive Members - 1

Military Services:

Army - 67 USMC - 11
 USAF - 46 USCG - 7
 Navy - 29 NOAA - 0

12/26/2014



Visit our Chapter Web Site =>





Minutes

Reported by **Chris Lillich**

Monthly Luncheon; 19 December 2014

Attended – 66: (63 reservations), 4 Member Guest, 8 Chapter Guests, 4 Walk in, 0 Cancel, 1 No Shows

The December luncheon meeting was called to order by the President, Terry Carr. First Vice President Glen Crabb gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

The head table consisted of Terry Carr, Paulette Carr, Glen Crabb, Kara Delemeester, our scholarship recipient and her mother Susan Delemeester, our speaker Ruth Rymal and her husband Tracy Lynn and LCPL Paul Rubin, USMC.

Other guests introduced were; Clifford Eichholz, brother of member Bill Eichholz, and Clifford's wife Stephanie, Vida Meilus, guest of Mike McDonough and Helen Hajek, sister of Virginia Balke. Chapter guests in addition to CPL Rubin were PFC Daniel Petrino, PFC Austin Jacobsen and CPL Brandon Whobrey. We were also happy to welcome new member Paul Gunderson.

Announcements: Sherry Freese said she was in Hawaii over Thanksgiving and attended the Hawaii Chapter of MOAA Christmas party. There are two MOAA Chapters in Hawaii and the two combined for the Christmas party. She urged everyone to read the Communicate as it gives information about all the chapters in Florida and the Council of Chapters.

Anita Harrow received a thank you note from one of the residents of the Heaven on Earth for Veterans homes. He was very happy to receive the bag of goodies. Anita thanked all who contributed to these gift bags. Twenty six bags and 5 welcome baskets were presented to the residents. A check has been received for \$400 from a condo group. Anita recognized Ellen Fine and thanked her for sewing pillowcases for the HOEV and Operation Helping Hands, and also thanked Sherry for the first batch of covers for amputees. Carol Barkalow also read a letter from one of the residents.

The door prize was won by Fred Schlager and the 50/50 was split between Betty Finley and Carol Barkalow.

The President asked for a vote to elect those nominated to serve next year. General Earl Peck made a motion to accept the nominated slate by acclimation, seconded by Bruce Love, motion carried. Officers for 2015 are Lt Col Larry N. Fermal, USAF (Ret), CDR Glen Crabb, USN (Ret), Mrs. Betty J. Finley, AuxMbr-spouse, Mrs. Ginni Eichholz, AuxMbr-spouse and Treasurer, Maj Pete Dawson, USAF (Ret).

The Executive Advisory Board elected for 2015 and 2016 are CDR Maurene Connors, USN (Ret), LTC William R. Eichholz, USA (Ret) and Mrs. Evelyn N Hamilton, AuxMbr-A.

Following lunch Glen Crabb introduced our guest speaker, Ruth Rymal. Ruth is a former helicopter pilot who is presently



working with service personnel, both men and women, who are currently in uniform or are veterans, leading them to discover where their passions lie and how to have a great life out of the military.

After a question and answer period President Carr presented Ruth with the traditional gift of glasses.

President Carr thanked everyone who brought gifts for the Toys for Tots program and following the benediction by Glen Crabb, the Marines happily loaded the Toys in their vehicles to be distributed to well deserved children.

Executive Committee Meeting 1 December 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Terry Carr at 1140 hours. First Vice President Glen Crabb gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Ten members were present to include; Terry Carr, Glen Crabb, Pete Dawson, Pauline Edwards, Chris Lillich, Ed Lillich, Bill Lofgren, Ozzie Osborn, Jim Patton and Violet Smith.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the previous meeting were reported as accurate as printed in the December O.C. Ed Lillich made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Pete Dawson.

Treasurer's Report: Pete Dawson reported a balance of \$7,503.73 in the operating account and the scholarship fund balance is \$3,948.00. Treasurer's report was accepted subject to audit. Pete made a motion to send the scholarship fund balance to MOAA for our yearly obligation. Violet Smith seconded the motion and motion passed.

First Vice President: Glen Crabb said the speaker for December will be Ruth Rymal. In addition we will be accepting toys for Toys for Tots. Bill Lofgren will play Christmas music on the keyboard and Carols will be sung. Brian Anderson, Counsel for MOAA will be the speaker at the installation dinner. In February we will have Lewis Hoffman, a retired lawyer and author as our guest speaker.

Committee Reports:

Personal Affairs: Violet Smith reported the death of Salvatore Sartoria, Maj USAF (Ret).

Publicity: Pauline Edwards sent out news releases to the local newspapers.

JROTC: Ed Lillich said the annual Field Day for the JROTC units in the area will be held in January and he made a motion to send the customary \$150.00 to help pay for the medals for this event. Jim Patton seconded the motion and motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nominations: Ed Lillich said that nominations were closed and election would take place at the December 10 luncheon.

Installation Banquet: Glen Crabb said the Installation would be held on January 16th at the Bayou Club and meal choices will be published in the January O.C. Particulars will be announced at the December meeting.

See Minutes Pg 4



Minutes from from Page 3

New Business:

Bill Lofgren made a motion, seconded by Glen Crabb to give Scott Williams, our waiter, the sum of \$50.00 as a Christmas bonus. Motion carried.

There being no further business Glen Crabb gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be January 5 at Perkins.

Tech Tactics - Choosing Passwords That Really Protect You

October 14, 2014

The recent hacking of celebrity photos has drawn increased attention to the importance of online passwords and how many people don't approach them seriously.

The main issue with passwords is balancing security with convenience. The most convenient option is to use the same password for all of your sites and make that password easy to remember by choosing a simple word. This, of course, is the least secure option.

There's a list that circulates among hackers of the 500 most commonly used passwords, which include "password," "123456," "abc123," "letmein," and "iloveyou."

More websites these days require you to create passwords that are at least eight characters long and that include at least one capital letter and one number. This is good practice with any site.

Here's other frequently offered — but frequently ignored — password advice:

Use symbols as well as upper- and lowercase letters and numbers. The more types of characters you include, the more difficult your password will be to crack.

Don't use as passwords your birth date, the name of a relative, or a dictionary word. Some password-cracking programs simply run through all of the words in a particular dictionary.

Use longer rather than shorter passwords. Eight characters should be the minimum, but 12 characters are even better. Some "brute force" password-cracking programs on heavy-duty hardware can run through every possible eight-character combination in a matter of hours.

Use a "passphrase" instead of a password. A short sentence, such as "Go forth 4 ever&more," can be easy to remember, not too difficult to type, and very difficult to crack.

Don't use the same password or passphrase with multiple sites. Periodically, high-profile sites are hacked in which thousands of users' passwords are breached. If a hacker discovers a password of yours this way or by using a password-cracking program and you use the same password for other sites, this makes it easy to break into your other sites.

Instead, consider making each passphrase a variation, changed in a standard way based on the site you're connecting to. For

example, within the passphrase, you could include the first three letters of the site's name but move each letter forward by three letters (so GOO becomes JRR).

Use dual-factor authentication, sometimes called two-step verification, whenever it's available, particularly with financial or other sensitive sites. Dual-factor authentication requires you, when gaining access, to provide along with a password a second piece of information, such as answering a security question or returning a code that's texted to you.

When choosing security questions, select ones whose answers can't be easily guessed by hackers or found from information publicly available online, such as the city where you went to high school. With some of the recent celebrity cases, it's believed this is how hackers gained access to victims' accounts.

Use a password management service or otherwise hide your passwords. Some people write their passwords on a piece of paper, even taping the paper to their computer or desk. The obvious downside to this is the risk of someone, from a nosy babysitter to an office adversary, coming across it.

A password management service lets you use one password for it and fills in your passwords, automatically and behind the scenes, for sites you visit. Two recommended password managers are Lastpass and KeePass.

It's still a good idea to keep a separate record of your passwords, in a word processing or spreadsheet file, for instance, and to keep this list encrypted. Alternately, keeping such a record and accessing it when needed can be a way to access sensitive sites.

Basic file encryption is built into various versions of Microsoft Windows and the Mac's operating system. You also could use a third-party encryption program or an archiving program that includes encryption as an option, such as 7-Up (7-zip.org). Back up any encrypted file on which you store passwords to multiple backup sources in case of hard disk crashes or other problems.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

One of the easiest, least expensive ways to stay healthy is often one of the most overlooked. Avoiding the common cold, or worse the flu, can be as easy as washing your hands. Many people wash their hands, but do so ineffectively with just a quick rinse of water. To wash your hands properly, you should lather your hands with soap and scrub them for at least 20 seconds. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests humming the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice as a timer.

We highlight the importance of proper handwashing and how it helps to prevent illness because National Handwashing Awareness Week, occurred jointly with National Influenza Week, a national observance established to highlight the importance of getting the flu vaccine. The CDC has developed a Flu Vaccination Pledge to encourage everyone to get the flu vaccine emphasizing "Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community."





MOAA Legislative Update

Edited by **Jim Patton**

From MOAA and other sources

Defense Bill Wins

December 19, 2014

The FY 2015 defense authorization bill included several wins on issues MOAA has been working for years. We take a closer look at two of these lesser-known wins.



Early Reserve Retirement Credit

The defense bill partially resolves a long-sought technical glitch concerning the full crediting of earned early reserve retirement credit for reservists called to federal active duty.

The FY 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized National Guard and Reserve members to begin receiving retired pay earlier than age 60 for qualifying active duty service performed after 28 January 2008.

Each aggregate of 90 days active duty yields three months' early retirement, but only if the call-up time is served within a single fiscal year. Consequently, many operational reservists are losing the credit.

For example, a 120-day call-up commencing on August 1 and ending on November 30 would receive no early reserve retirement credit because the 90-day clock resets at the start of the fiscal year (October 1).

The defense bill permits credit of qualifying active service totaling aggregates of 90 days served over two consecutive fiscal years.

The change is an important step towards improving compensation for reservists that matches the enormous increase in the nation's reliance on them for operational missions. Unfortunately, however, the provision only applies to activations after September 30, 2014.

Guard and Reserve members who retire early are not eligible for TRICARE Standard or Prime coverage before age 60, an issue for which MOAA continues to seek a legislative remedy.

MOAA also continues to support crediting Guard and Reservists' active duty service from September 11, 2001 until January 27, 2008, but the \$2 billion dollar mandatory spending price tag deters lawmakers from taking it up.

SBP Special Needs Trust

The defense bill also includes a provision authorizing the payment of Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities into a special needs trust for permanently disabled dependent children.

A special needs trust exempts income from means-testing for assistance provided by state governments and social services. MOAA and its partners have been advocating for this change since 2007.

DFAS must now establish and implement the administrative rules necessary to accommodate retirees who wish to designate a special needs trust as the recipient of their SBP annuity.

This guidance will likely involve soliciting public comments via the Federal Register. MOAA will be monitoring the process to ensure comments and concerns from retirees are considered.

Our best guess at this point is that DoD will allow an SBP "open season" to accommodate this new category of beneficiary. Retirees with a permanently disabled child who elected not to enroll in SBP because of the potential adverse effects of the annuity receipt may be considered for open enrollment. MOAA will provide more information as it becomes available.

Special needs trusts are complex legal instruments and any retired member contemplating the use of one should consult with a qualified lawyer. We caution that it will likely take months for DFAS to develop guidance.

Leadership Shakeup

With Republicans taking control of Congress and key legislators retiring from office, the Armed Services and Veterans Affairs committees will have several new leaders in the 114th Congress.

In the House, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon (R-Calif.) is retiring. Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) will replace him, and Rep. Adam Smith (D-Wash.) remains ranking member.

Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) moves on from chairman of the Military Personnel subcommittee to take over the Intelligence, Emerging Threats and Capabilities subcommittee. Joe Heck (R-Nev.) – a brigadier general in the Army Reserve – will take his place. Rep. Susan Davis (D-Calif.) remains the ranking member.

Rep. Jeff Miller (R-Fla.) remains the chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, but ranking member Rep. Michael Michaud (D-Maine) is retiring. Rep. Corrine Brown (D-Fla.) recently was selected to take his place.

With Republicans in control of the Senate, John McCain (R-Ariz.) will become chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Former chairman Carl Levin (D-Mich.) is retiring and Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.) will step into the ranking member position.

Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-S.C.) becomes the chair of the Military Personnel subcommittee and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) moves to ranking member.

Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-Georgia) will be the new chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, replacing Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.). Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) is the new ranking member.

MOAA President Vice Adm. Norb Ryan, USN (Ret) is already making the rounds on Capitol Hill to welcome the new leaders. With so many challenges ahead in 2015 it will be cru-

See Legislature Pg 8



MOAA scholarship winner Kara Delemeester and her mother Susan



1st VP Glen Crabb delivering the invocation



Guest speaker Ruth Rymal



Terry Carr presenting Ruth Rymal with the traditional chapter gift



Treasurer Pete and Linda Dawson



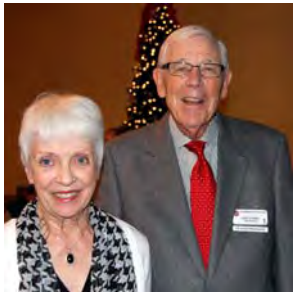
New member Paul Gunderson



Stephanie and Clifford Eichholz, visiting Ginni and brother Bill Eichholz



Jacqueline D'Louhy



1st VP Glen and Katie Crabb



Rose Munchbach, Anne Isley and Violet Smith



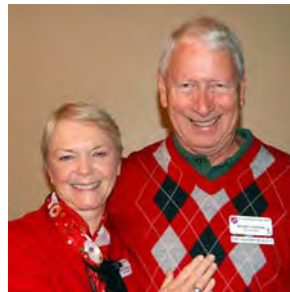
Barb and Larry Fernald



Johnnie Neville and Sherry Freese



Robert Palsha and Barbara Stakk



Jeanie and Roger Popham



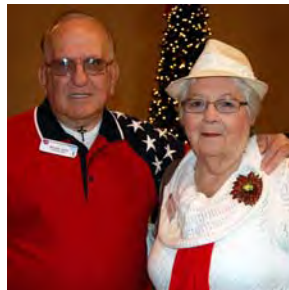
Margaret and Earl Peck



Virginia Balke and visiting sister Helen Hajek



Bill and Lynn Bolin



Bruce and Julia Love



Wouldn't be Christmas without Bill Lofgren leading us in Christmas Carols



Maureen Connors and Joanne Taylor





Guest speaker Ruth Ryman and husband Tracy Lynn



Paul and Betty Finley



Fran Shivers



Mike McDonough with guest Vida Meilus



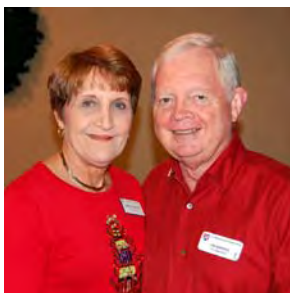
Toys for Tots Marines: PFC Daniel Petrino, PFC Austin Jacobsen, CPL Branden Whobrey and LCPL Paul Rubin



CPL Branden Whobrey and Pauline Edwards



Evey Hamilton, LCPL Paul Rubin and Bobbie Walters



Carol and Van Barnes



Chris and Ed Lillich



Stan Maratos



Bill Lee



Pauline Edwards with door prize winner Fred Schlager



Bill Lewis with 50/50 winner Carol Barkalow and LCPL Paul Rubin



50/50 winner Betty Finley and Bill Lewis

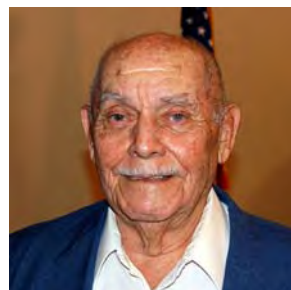


Ellen Marie and Ken Fine

Photos by Bill Lofgren

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: lofgrenlepc@earthlink.net



Herb Tondreau



Paulette and Terry Carr



Jim Patton



Legislature from Page 5

cial for MOAA to foster a productive relationship with these new leaders in order to build support for the all-volunteer force and our nation's veterans.

All commissaries are now scanning ID cards

FORT LEE, Va. – As many patrons already know, commissaries are now scanning customers' Department of Defense identification cards at checkouts. The reason for scanning ID cards is because the Defense Commissary Agency is continuing its efforts to deliver a 21st century benefit to eligible shoppers.

Commissary shoppers were used to showing their ID cards to establish their eligibility to use the commissary. By scanning the ID card at checkout, DeCA will no longer need to maintain any personal information on customers in its computer systems.

Since only authorized patrons may use the commissary, and ID card scanning will be the means of verification, no patrons may opt out from these procedures.

Scanning will also help improve the commissary benefit for all patrons, according to Joseph H. Jeu, DeCA director and CEO.

"In addition to verifying customers as authorized commissary patrons, we'll gain

information that will give us a better understanding of our patrons, allowing the agency to provide the commissary benefit more effectively and efficiently," Jeu said.

Cross-referenced with other DOD data, the scan data will give commissary agency officials useful information about patron usage by

each military service, along with customer demographics that do not identify specific personal data of an individual.

This will eventually help the agency identify shopping needs and preferences – information that is essential in today's retail business environment. It will also allow more accurate reporting to the military services on commissary usage.

The demographic data DeCA will use is strictly limited to card ID number, rank, military status, branch of service, age, household size, and ZIP code. DeCA will not be using any personal information such as names, addresses or phone numbers.

"The methods, processes and information we'll use will not compromise our customers' privacy – they can be sure of that," Jeu said. "We're putting technology to work to better under-

Mustang Officers Protected

December 23, 2014

Secretary of the Army John McHugh announced last week that the Army is reversing a decision that forced prior-enlisted "mustang" officers selected for involuntary retirement to retire at their last enlisted rank.

Roughly 160 out of the more than 1,900 Army officers selected for involuntary separation were retirement-eligible "mus-

tang" officers, but they did not have the required eight years of commissioned service time to retire at their current rank.

These officers were to be retired at their last enlisted rank, and stood to lose more than \$1,000 a month in retirement compensation compared to the "high-three" average typically used to compute retired pay.

The policy reversal follows pressure from MOAA and members of Congress to stop this inequity.

Reps. Glenn Thompson (R-Penn.) and Tim Walz (D-Minn.) led the charge by introducing the Proudly Restoring Officers of Prior Enlistment Retirement (PROPER) Act to reduce commissioned service time requirements. Sens. Patty Murray (D-Wash.), Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.), and 13 other senators wrote a letter to the secretary asking him to reverse policy.

When announcing the policy reversal, Secretary McHugh said that some officers would be brought back onto active duty until they reached the eight year threshold. For others, time in service time requirements would be waived.

"MOAA applauds the actions of Secretary McHugh and the Army to rectify this inequity for prior enlisted 'mustang' officers. As a former Chief of Naval Personnel, I'd particularly like to thank Reps. Thompson and Walz for their quick response to protect these servicemembers who repeatedly answered the call of duty to our nation," said MOAA President Vice Adm. Norb Ryan, USN (Ret). "Together, these actions right a wrong and provide these officers with the respect and compensation they deserve for their decades of selfless service and sacrifice."

Reducing end strength is never easy, but the decision by the Army is the right one to draw down with dignity. MOAA has consistently called on the services to use the force shaping tools available to them.

Recruiting any and all pilots

The chief of staff of the US Air Force decided that he would personally intervene in the recruiting crisis affecting all of our armed services. He directed a nearby Air Force base that will be opened and that all eligible young men and women be invited.

As he and his staff were standing near a brand new F-15 Fighter, a pair of twin brothers who looked like they had just stepped off a Marine Corps recruiting poster walked up to them. The chief of staff walked up to them, stuck out his hand and introduced himself.

He looked at the first young man and asked, "Son, what skills can you bring to the Air Force?"

The young man looks at him and says, "I'm a pilot!"

The general gets all excited, turns to his aide and says, "Get him in today, all the paper work done, everything, do it!"

The aide hustles the young man off. The general looks at the second young man and asked, "What skills do you bring to the Air Force?"

See Pilots Page 9





TAPS

◆ Thankfully, no one.

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)
- ◆ Mrs. Margaret Mattson, AuxMbr-CG
- ◆ COL Frederick Terry, USA (Ret)
- ◆ CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG (Ret)
- ◆ BG Paul Smith, USA (Ret)



Welcome Our New Members!

- ◆ Gunderson, Halvor “Peter,” CAPT, USNR (Ret), (Kathleen), 1455 26th Ave No., St Petersburg, FL 33704, 404-304-3313

Every member get a new member!

Financial Report Summary for the Month of November

HOT Fund

.... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 3,491.72
.... Donations	\$ 376.00
.... 50/50	\$ 51.00
.... Memorials	\$ 0.00
.... Expenses	\$ 0.00
.... HOT Balance, End of Month	\$ 3,918.72

Scholarship Fund

.... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 2,783.00
.... Donations	\$ 1,165.00
.... Expended	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 3,948.00

Operating Account

.... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 7,394.17
.... Luncheon Income	\$ 795.00
.... Dues	\$ 745.00
.... Misc Income	\$ 0.00
.... Interest Earned	\$ 1.88
.... Luncheon Expense	\$ (696.00)
.... Supplies	\$ (5.00)
.... Post Office	\$ 0.00
.... Honraria/donations	\$ (50.00)
.... Niscellaneous expenses	\$ 0.00
.... Memorial to HOT	\$ 0.00
.... Printing/mailing	\$ 0.00
.... Newsletter Costs	\$ (346.50)
.... VA/JROTC	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 7,53.73

January Birthdays (63 to 92 years)

Day	LName	FName	Rank	SVC
15	Barnes	Carol	COL	USA (Ret)
18	Burch	JoAnn	LTC	USA (Ret)
13	Fernald	Barbara	Mrs.	AuxMbr-Spouse
9	Fraser	Jean	Mrs.	AuxMbr-CG
27	Hardin-Gres	Jeanne	COL	USA (Ret)
31	Harrison	Christa	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
10	Kirkland	Douglas	CDR	USN (Ret)
28	Kottich	Charles	COL	USA (Ret)
17	Maxson	Harry	Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
14	Neville	Alice	Mrs.	LifeAuxMbr-AF
16	Palmer	Samuel	Col	USAF (Ret)
07	Patton	Charles	LTC	USA (Ret)
18	Ponder	Elza	CPT	USA (Ret)
14	Schramm	Jean	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF

Membership

Do you have a friend or know of someone who is eligible for membership in MOAA? Invite them to one of our luncheons.

Pilots from Page 8

The young man says, “I chop wood!”

“Son,” the general replies, “we don’t need wood choppers in the Air Force, what do you know how to do?”

“I chop wood!”

“Young man,” huffs the general, “you are not listening to me, we don’t need wood choppers, this is the 20th century!”

“Well,” the young man says, “you hired my brother!”

“Of course we did,” says the general, “he’s a pilot!”

The young man rolls his eyes and says, “So what! I have to chop it before he can pile it!”



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Barnes, Carol COL
Barnes, Van 1LT
Carr, Terry LTC
Edwards, Pauline Mrs.
Fernald, Larry Lt Col
Flint, John Col
Green, Richard CWO4
Harrow, Anita Mrs.
Isley, Anne Mrs.
Landers, Joan Mrs.
Langston, Gregg Lt Col
Langston, Susan Capt
Lee, Bill LCDR
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
Schoeppner, John Maj Gen
Smith, Violet Mrs.
Speairs, Tom 2LT
Summers, Stormy Col
Talibitzer, John LT
Vitters, Cindy LTC

Member donations ONLY:
\$4,311 as of 11/30/2014

••SILVER –

Bolin, Bill CDR
Dawson, Linda Mrs.
Dawson, Pete Maj
Fratangelo, Paul MajGen
Gioe, Shirley Mrs.
Hamilton, Evelyn Mrs.
Hetherington, Chuck Col
Koch, Dick Lt Col
Popham, Jeanie Mrs.
Popham, Roger COL

••BRONZE –

Brown, George COL
Butler, Jerry COL
Christie, Bob LtCol
Hermann, Peter Col
Holecek, John LTC
Kirkland, Doug CDR
Lewis, Bill Lt Col
Maxson, Paul Lt Col
McCormick, Jim Lt Col
Myers, Ralph Lt Col
Newton, Dick Col
Osborn, Ozzie LTC
Sartorio, Sal Maj
Tondreau, Herb CWO4
Trahan, Creighton LTC
Vaughn, Sid RADM
Vecchio, Joe MAJ
Wildes, Shirley Mrs.

Speaking with the General

It was a dark, stormy, night. The Marine was on his first assignment, and it was guard duty.

A General stepped out taking his dog for a walk. The nervous young Private snapped to attention, made a perfect salute, and snapped out “Sir, Good Evening, Sir!”

The General, out for some relaxation, returned the salute and said “Good evening soldier, nice night, isn’t it?”

Well it wasn’t a nice night, but the Private wasn’t going to disagree with the General, so the he saluted again and replied “Sir, Yes Sir!”.

The General continued, “You know there’s something about a stormy night that I find soothing, it’s really relaxing. Don’t you agree?”

The Private didn’t agree, but them the private was just a private, and responded “Sir, Yes Sir!”

The General, pointing at the dog, “This is a Golden Retriever, the best type of dog to train.”

2014 Help Our Troops 2014 Heaven on Earth Donors

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

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Bolin, Bill CDR
Carr, Paulette Mrs.
Carr, Terry LTC
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Fine, Ellen Marie Mrs.
Fine, Ken MAJ
Fratangelo, Paul MajGen
Freese, Sherry Mrs.
Gioe, Shirley Mrs.
Green, Richard CWO4
Harrison, Christa Mrs.
Harrow, Anita Mrs.
Isley, Anne Mrs.
Koch, Dick Lt Col
Kottich, Chuck COL
Landers, Joan Mrs.
Lee, Bill LCDR
Lofgren, Bill Col
Love, H. B. COL
Mallory, Pauline LTC
McDonough, Mike LtCol
Milford, John Lt Col
Misuraca AJ 1st Lt
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Myers, Asa Mrs.
Neville, Johnnie Mrs.
Palmer, Stew Col
Palsha, Robert LTC
Patton, Jim CWO4
Patton, Kathi Mrs.
Peck, Earl Maj Gen
Popham, Jeanie Mrs.
Popham, Roger COL

Member donations ONLY:
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Poteat, Genevieve Mrs.
Schoeppner, John Maj Gen
Smith, Violet Mrs.
Speairs, Tom 2LT
Stakk, Barbara Ms.
Talibitzer, John LT
Tondreau, Herb CWO4
Vitters, Cindy LTC

••SILVER –

Barnes, Carol COL
Barnes, Van 1LT
Bax, Giles COL
Bolin, Lynn Mrs
Brown, George COL
Hamilton, Evelyn Mrs.
Hermann, Peter Col
Hetherington, Chuck Col
Maxson, Paul Lt Col
Newton, Dick Col
Osborn, Ozzie LTC
Sartorio, Sal Maj
Taylor, Joanne MAJ
Terry, Frederick COL
Trahan, Creighton LTC
Walters, Bobbie Mrs.

••BRONZE –

Finley, Paul LCDR
Holecek, John LTC
Lorence, Marie LTC
Peck, Margaret Mrs.
Reed, Bob LCDR
Vision, Mick CDR
Wildes, Shirley Mrs.
Vaughn, Sid RADM
Vecchio, Joe MAJ

Help Our Troops (HOT)

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

The Private glanced at the dog, saluted yet again and said “Sir, Yes Sir!”

The General continued “I got this dog for my wife.”

The Private simply said “Good trade Sir!”



You are Invited to Attend:
The St Petersburg Area Chapter
 Military Officers Association of America

2015 Installation Luncheon

Guest Speaker:

Col. Brian D. Anderson, USAF (Ret)
 MOAA Deputy Director, Council and Chapter
 Affairs

Friday, 16 January 2015
 Bayou Club
 7979 Bayou Club Blvd
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 11:15 AM to Noon Cash Bar
 Noon to 1:30 PM Luncheon

RSVP: Not Later Than 10 January 2015 by mailing payment
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Menu Choices:

Marinated London Broil
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 Grilled Salmon with lemon dill sauce

Please respond early as there will be no walk-ins and we
 need to provide the Bayou Club with the number and meal
 choices prior to luncheon

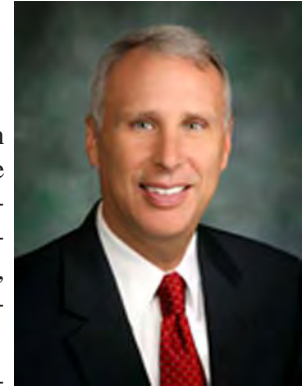
Dress: Coat and Tie for the men and appropriate dress for
 Ladies
 Free Valet Parking for Attendees



January

- 1: New Year's Day
- 9: First iPhone introduced in 2007
- 15: First Super Bowl played 1967
- 16: Installation of Officers
- 19: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 30: FDR born 1823

**Col. Brian D. Anderson,
 USAF (Ret)**



Col. Anderson served 26 years in the U.S. Air Force in a wide range of command and staff assignments, including tours at U.S. Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla., and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Brussels, Belgium.

He retired in November 2010 following his last assignment as the mission support group commander at Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C., where he led a multidisciplinary 1,500-person group in the operations and administration of the base to support more than 40,000 Air Force personnel and family members in the national capital region.

Anderson compiled more than 4,000 flying hours in various aircraft and was awarded an Air Medal and Combat Action Medal as a B-52 aircraft commander during Operation Enduring Freedom.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Bowling Green State University in Ohio and a Master of Arts in public administration from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Colo.

He joined the staff of MOAA's Career Transition Services Department in August 2011, and in December 2012, he was named deputy director, Council and Chapter Affairs Department.



Directions to Bayou Club

On Starkey Road between Park Blvd and Bryan Dairy Road. Coming from the south, St. Petersburg, turn right onto Bardmoor Blvd, coming from the north, Largo, turn left onto Bardmoor Blvd. At the end make a right onto Bayou Club Blvd.

