



OFFICERS CALL

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



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

President's Comments:

The July issue of the Military Officer magazine will target more than 170,000 non-chapter MOAA members through a special chapter cover wrap. Included will be a compelling message to non-chapter MOAA members, with an offer of a complimentary one-year membership in their local chapter. Also included in the cover wrap, will be a tear-off post card that contains the members name and the name of the chapter near them. These postcards will be returned to MOAA national where they will be sorted by chapter and new member lists prepared for each chapter.



The appropriate list will then be sent to our chapter, for the next step in the process—welcoming the new members. First impressions are all important and we may have just one or two meetings to encourage them to become a participating chapter member.

This new member initiative will run July1 – September 30, 2010. We will receive monthly new member lists generated by this cover wrap initiative, beginning the end of July. We must contact the new members, join them on our chapter roster, send them a welcome letter and invite them to our next chapter meeting. You must help in this effort.

See President, Pg 3

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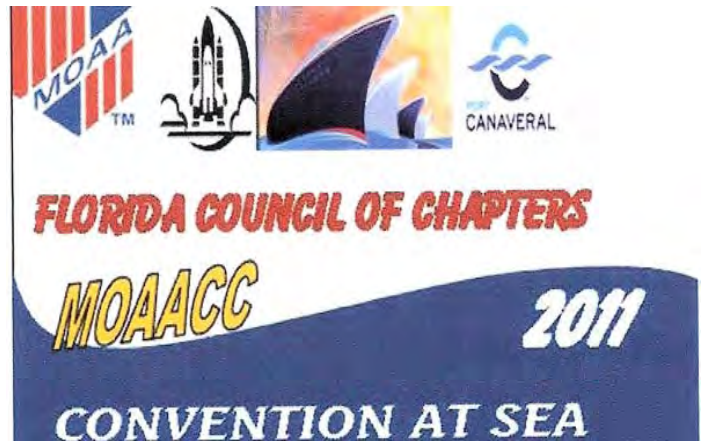
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Florida Council of Chapters

On May 22, 2010 at the Annual FCOC Convention in Fort Myers our own Don Freese was elected as President. His installation was performed by General Butch Neal, Chairman of the Board of MOAA, at the Military Ball.



2011 FCOC Convention



If you haven't reserved your cabin for the 2011 Florida Council of Chapters Convention at Sea (Eastern Caribbean Cruise on "The Freedom of The Seas" 8-15 MA Y2011), now is your chance. We want to make sure you get the cabin of your choice by making a reservation for you now. So please visit the Cruise Holiday Web Site (www.cruiseholidays@cfl.rr.com|Viera) or call me at 321-242-1331 soonest.

Capt Larry Jackson, USAF, Chairman



Officers Call



Print Media Winner- 2006

Print Media 1st Runner-Up - 2008

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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President- MAJ Ed Lillich, USA (Ret) 546-2246
 1st VP- LTC Terry Carr, USA (Ret) 392-6524
 2nd VP- LTJG Larry Butterfield, USN (Fmr) 289-8559
 Secretary- Mrs. Chris Lillich Spouse-A 546-2246
 Treasurer- Maj Pete Dawson, USAF (Ret) 894-3761

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 CDR Maureen Conners, USN (Ret) 347-7976
 Mrs. Barbara Walters, AuxMbr-A 595-4619

2010 & 2011 —

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 1LT Hazel Murphy, USANC (Fmr) 347-5195
 Mrs. Johnnie Neville, AuxMbr-AF 522-5685

Immediate Past President

Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF (Ret) 522-6237

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 TOPS COL Ron Merritt, USA 367-9809
 VA Vol Svc LT Ed Conners, USN 347-7976
 Vet Liaison MAJ Ed Lillich, USA 546-2246
 Visitation LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN 545-3884

Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 301
 Regular Members - 213
 Auxiliary Members - 88
 Inactive Members - 8

Military Services:

Army - 69 USMC - 15
 USAF - 73 USCG - 7
 Navy - 49 NOAA - 0

6/13/2010

Luncheon Meetings The 3rd Friday — mixer
 11:00 - 11:45; luncheon program 11:45 - 13:15;
 BanquetMasters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Pk.

CALENDAR

July 16th LT Ryan Dilkey, USCGR

August 20th

September 17th MG Robert J Kasulke, MD, USAR

October 15th

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

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

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.

July 5th Monday

August 2nd Monday

September 7th Tuesday

October 4th Monday

ROWC

Luncheons:

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

Bridge: (1st Wednesday of the month) 10:00 AM

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park.

- Reservations or Information: Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272

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

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

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





President from Pg 1

For each new member we gain through this effort MOAA will give us a \$15.00 rebate to help offset the costs of a one year chapter membership for this member. Working with MOAA we can make a difference in getting the next generation of members into the chapter system.

We must support this effort and put a plan in place now to make sure we properly welcome the new members to make it a success and to help our chapter. If this is to work each of us must make a commitment to be a part of this plan.

The lists we receive will be MOAA members who have yet to join a chapter. Let us bring them into our chapter. MOAA has done everything in their power to increase our membership and with this new initiative the ball is in our court.

GOVERNOR CRIST SIGNS LEGISLATION OFFERING MILITARY DISCOUNTS AT FLORIDA STATE PARKS

~HB1145 provides military and veteran discounts for Florida State Park annual passes~

TALLAHASSEE – In honor of Memorial Day, Governor Charlie Crist on Monday signed House Bill 1145 providing a 25 percent discount on annual passes to Florida State Parks for all veterans, active-duty service and reserve members. The new discounts coincide with the 75th anniversary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s (DEP) Florida State Parks.

“The Florida Park Service is thankful for the dedicated service of the men and women who have served in our nation’s and state’s military,” said Florida Park Service Director Mike Bullock, a Marine Corps a veteran. “We are proud that the Florida Park Service is able to honor our military and their families who give so much to protect our freedom and the American way of life.”

Effective July 1, 2010, honorably discharged veterans, active-duty service and reserve members will receive a 25 percent discount on the purchase of a Florida State Park annual pass. The discount provides a savings of \$15 on an individual annual pass and \$30 on a family annual pass, which allows up to eight people in a group to access most of Florida’s 160 state parks. In addition, honorably discharged veterans who have service connected disabilities, and surviving spouses of military veterans who have fallen in combat, will receive a lifetime family annual entrance pass at no charge.

“This is another superb initiative to honor our state’s 1.7 million veterans and their families,” said Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs Executive Director LeRoy Collins Jr. “Florida’s state park system has a long tradition of recognizing the selfless service and sacrifice of America’s veterans to our nation.”

The discounted Florida State Parks Annual Entrance Pass is only available for purchase at any Florida State Park staffed

ranger station. The free annual pass can only be obtained at a staffed ranger station.

Created in 1935 by the Florida Legislature, Florida’s state parks have grown from eight to 160 parks over the last 75 years, and are overseen by the DEP Florida Park Service.

Today, the Florida Park Service manages more than 700,000 acres of Florida’s natural environment, including 100 miles of beaches, eight National Historic Landmarks and 39 sites on the National Register of Historic Places. Florida State Parks has been recognized by the National Recreation and Park Association as the nation’s first and only two-time Gold Medal winner for the nation’s best park service.

For information on qualifications and necessary forms to receive these discounts, visit www.FloridaStateParks.org/thingstoknow/annualpass.cfm#discountsforveterans. To learn more about Florida’s state parks and 75th Anniversary events, visit www.FloridaStateParks.org, and follow us on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/FLStateParks.

Field of Honor Ceremony

The Veterans Council of Hillsborough will be conducting a Field of Honor Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park & Museum, located just south of the Florida State Fairgrounds at 3602 US Highway 301 North, Tampa on Saturday, July 10, 2010 at 10:00 AM.

This ceremony is conducted every three months to honor those who have given their lives in the War on Terrorism. The name of every Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine and Coast Guardsman who has died during the last three months will be read aloud, and a flag will be placed for each military service member in the field in their honor, adding to the 5394 flags that have already been placed. The Ceremony is open to the public.

The VFW Post 8101 from Riverview will conduct this ceremony. For further information, please contact Walt Raysick at 813-653-4924 or by email at wraysick@verizon.net

The Tall Ships Are Coming

Celebrate Tampa Bay’s rich maritime history featuring the magnificent International Sailing Ships of the World. The celebration begins on Saturday July 10, 2010 with a spectacular “Parade of Sail” as the ships enter the Port of Tampa with thousands of spectators lining the shoreline. Among the Tall Ships will be the USCG Barque Eagle manned by cadets from the US Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. The 5-day festival will feature live music and dockside tours of the ships located at Convention Center and Channelside Channel. Sail Tampa Bay is a non-profit committee formed under the guidance of Tampa Bay and Company...Tampa’s Convention and Visitors Bureau.





Executive Committee Meeting St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA; 7 June 2010 Reported by Chris Lillich, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 1130 hours by President Ed Lillich. The invocation was given by Ed Lillich and he then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Seventeen members were present including Bill Bolin, Terry Carr, Ed Connors, Maureen Connors, Pete Dawson, Fred Edwards, Larry Fernald, Don Freese, Anita Harrow, Chris Lillich, Ed Lillich, Bill Lofgren, Hazel McGrath, Hazel Murphy, Johnnie Neville, Jim Patton, and Violet Smith.



Motion was made by Larry Fernald, seconded by Anita Harrow that the previous minutes be approved as printed in the Officers Call. The Treasurer's report was presented by Pete Dawson and motion to accept was made by Don Freese, seconded by Larry Fernald. Motions passed. Complete treasurer's report is found elsewhere in the O.C.

First Vice President: Terry Carr reported that MAJ Michael Alvis, USAR will speak at the June 18 meeting, and Lt Ryan Dilkey, USCG Reserve will be the speaker for the July 16th luncheon. Terry is working on obtaining speakers for August through December.

Help Our Troops (HOT): Anita Harrow reported that she had a display at the annual Florida Council of Chapters convention in May, and was assisted by Johnnie Neville and Violet Smith's daughter, Tracey. Many people stopped by the table to view the pictures, read some of the letters from troops and admired the basket of chocolates and other sweets which had been donated by Larry Butterfield of Kilwin's at John's Pass for the raffle. Thanks to Larry for donating the lovely basket which raised \$125 for the H.O.T.project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Visitation: Hazel McGrath made phone calls to some of the older members who have not been able to attend the luncheons and also has sent get well cards to others. John Milford is home and you can call him or visit him there.

VA Volunteer Service: Ed Connors is working on getting tickets for a Rays Game at 50% off for those who live at Bay Pines and is trying to arrange transportation to the game. A motion was made by Bill Lofgren, seconded by Larry Fernald to donate \$100 to the summer volunteer program at the VA. Motion carried.

Scholarship Program: Hazel Murphy recommended that we should have a routine for getting information out on the program, and boost the fund by means other than in the Officers Call. She also would like to be assured that the recipient of our scholarship be someone from the Pinellas County

area. She would also like to see the recipient attend one of our luncheons so the membership can meet that person. After much discussion it was decided that the Chapter would work through the local JROTC units to find out if there are any potential recipients who are active in JROTC and who meets the eligibility criteria. We will pursue this in the coming school year.

Auxiliary Liaison: Anita was pleased with the attendance at the recent spouse and surviving spouse coffee. Several auxiliary members volunteered to serve as mentors for new widows/widowers and had their first opportunity to serve at the May Chapter memorial observance luncheon. Two tables were reserved for new widows/widowers and mentors and were decorated with mums and American flags. The mums were given to each widow/widower as a remembrance. With the help of the auxiliary focus groups the mentor project will continue to evolve with additional support services for auxiliary widows/widows. Anita gave a special thanks to the Executive committee for its financial help with the special decorations and to Anne Isley, Barbara Fernald and Violet Smith who served with her as mentors. Memorial booklets were sent to all those who were not able to attend the luncheon. One new auxiliary member recently joined the R.O.W.C.

Personal Affairs: Violet Smith reported that MacDill Air Force Base is instituting a new base entry system. You must take your ID card to the visitor's center where you will be fingerprinted and the ID card will be scanned. Hours are from 0600 to 1800 hours daily. Each ID card will be scanned when you enter the Base. This procedure is currently being used at other bases and posts.

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership/Give Me Ten: Bill Bolin found it necessary to resign as membership chairman and rendered his formal resignation. Bill Lofgren volunteered to take over as membership chair. Don Freese is working to correct some of the errors that have occurred in giving our Chapter new member credit for the Give Me Ten Program. It is imperative that our current members ask people they know who are eligible to become members of the Chapter and National.

NEW BUSINESS:

Johnnie Nelville felt that we should send the Officers Call for a period of three months to all eligible prospective members who are currently not a member of our Chapter or of National. It was pointed out that the July issue will have a wrapper promoting membership. After discussion a motion was made by Larry Fernald, seconded By Hazel Murphy that we send the entire Officers Call to prospective members in the months of August, September and October. Motion carried.

TOPS Chair: Ron Merritt has resigned as TOPS Chair. There is a slot for the Chapter TOPS (The Officer Placement System) Chair to go to a membership symposium September 16 – 18. Anyone with placement experience, and with experience with job fairs who is willing to learn the job should please call Ed Lillich. Job Fairs have been very successful on the national

See EC Meeting Pg 8





MOAA Legislative Update

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

21% Medicare/TRICARE Cut Reversed – For Now

If you get weekly Legislative Updates from MOAA, last week we were urged to email our House members to quickly pass legislation approved by the Senate (H.R. 3962) to restore full Medicare/TRICARE payments to doctors through the end of November 2010.



Initially, House leaders planned to delay action on that measure until the Senate passed a broader jobs bill.

After more than 17,000 MOAA members contacted their House members to urge immediate action, House leaders finally brought up and passed the bill by a vote of 417 - 1.

The President is expected to sign it into law immediately.

It will reverse a 21% payment cut that the flawed statutory payment formula had imposed on Medicare as of June 1. Medicare held up processing claims for more than two weeks beyond that date in hopes of quick Hill action, but finally had to implement the reduced payments for claims since June 1 as Congress continued to drag its feet.

Now that the fix is done, Medicare will have to reprocess the affected claims and pay doctors the difference.

TRICARE never got to the point of implementing the 21% cut, as TRICARE payment changes normally trail Medicare's by 30 to 60 days.

We appreciate Congress taking action to stave off the cuts, but the unfortunate reality is that all this bill did was kick the problem downstream six months until after the election.

Which means Congress will have to act again in the coming months to keep the 21% cut from being reinstated as of December 1.

In the meantime, many thanks are due to the thousands of MOAA members who helped Congress get off the dime - again - on this crucial health care

Concurrent Receipt in Limbo

MOAA was very pleased earlier this year when House leaders included a provision in H.R. 4213, the "American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010," that would phase out the VA disability offset to military retired pay for severely disabled medical (chapter 61) retirees.

The House passed H.R. 4213, but it's been bogged down in the Senate ever since as senators debate over cost offsets to pay for it.

Several Senate revisions have been offered, debated, and defeated - each a pared back version of the previous attempt.

Finally, leadership extracted the doctor payment fix portion of the bill and passed it separately (see article above), but the rest of the legislation - including the concurrent receipt effort - remains in limbo for lack of agreement in the Senate.

After the latest version of the larger bill failed to win the necessary 60 votes, Senate leaders decided to suspend action on it until after the July 4th recess in hopes of making more progress on other legislation in the meantime.

MOAA believes strongly that the concurrent receipt fix is at least as non-controversial as the doctor payment fix. It was included in the FY2011 Pentagon budget proposal, supported by the President, and House leaders already passed it and identified specific offsets to pay for it.

If the Senate has to continue haggling over the rest of H.R. 4213, MOAA believes the concurrent receipt issue should be solved the same way the doctor fix was - by pulling it out of the larger package and passing it as separate legislation.

Please send your Senators a MOAA-suggested message asking them to support this route to pass this much-needed and long-overdue relief for severely disabled medical retirees.

U.S. Savings Bond allotments near July 31 Deadline

Do you have a U.S. Savings Bond allotment to purchase bonds through your military, retiree or federal civilian employee pay?

If so, changes by the Treasury Department to move from paper to electronic bonds will require DFAS to discontinue that allotment on July 31, 2010. Savings Bonds will still be available, but you will have to create an account with TreasuryDirect.gov, the online tool for managing Treasury securities to continue purchasing bonds via payroll deduction.

Customers wishing to establish allotments to the new TreasuryDirect accounts can follow the procedures appropriate to their pay system. Customers will need to set up an account in TreasuryDirect first. Once they have an account in TreasuryDirect, they will establish a new allotment using the TreasuryDirect account number.

According to a Treasury Department press release (<http://www.treas.gov/press/releases/tg644.htm>), the change from paper security certificates to electronic purchase, storage, management and redemption will likely save "more than \$400 million and 12 million pounds of paper in the first five years alone."

Think About It

To steal information from a person is called plagiarism.
To steal information from the enemy is called gathering intelligence.





Monthly Luncheon; 18 June 2010

Reported by **Chris Lillich**

Attended – 63: (69 reservations), 2 Member Guests,
4 Chapter Guests, Walk ins 13
[2 Cancels, 1 No-show]

Following the social period the meeting was called to order at 11:45 by President Ed Lillich. The invocation was given by George Brown and Ed led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. New member, Don Alexander, USA (Ret) was introduced and then Ed called on the members, table by table to introduce guests. Bill Eisenhart was welcomed back following recovery from a fall.



It was pointed out that Bill Eisenhart is a survivor of the Schweinfurt Raid.

Following introductions the door prize drawing was won by Anne Isley. In addition George Brown was the winner of a book written and autographed by our own Fred Edwards, entitled “It’s My Story and I’m Stuck With It”. Anyone wishing to have one of Fred’s books should see him at the next luncheon. Then there was the coveted “Kilwin’s fudge” drawing and the lucky winners were Chris Lillich, John Schoeppner and Don Alexander. Penny Eisenhart won the 50/50 drawing.

Don Freese, newly elected President of FCOC, reported that our Chapter won the “most attendee award” at the convention in Fort Myers with 34 members attending. This shows the dedication the members have to our Chapter. Next year’s convention will be at sea hosted by the Cape Canaveral Chapter on May 8th, 2011, the 2012 convention will be hosted by the Palm Beach Chapter at the Marriott Palm Beach and Pensacola is looking at hosting the 2013 convention. Don was surprised by his son and daughter-in-law and his daughter when they arrived from Virginia and Texas to be with him at his installation as President.

Don also praised Bill Lofgren for the photography he did at the convention. President Ed then asked for a round of applause for the new President of the FCOC, Don Freese.

Our HOT Chairman, Anita Harrow, thanked Larry Butterfield for the beautiful candy basket that was raffled off at the HOT table at the convention. The raffle brought in \$125 which will go into the fund to help cover expenses for the boxes mailed to the troops. Larry also contributed one hundred individually packed bags of peanut brittle which will be put in the boxes to go out to the troops next month, Anita thanked Fred Edwards for his contribution of five autographed books which also will go out in the mailing next Wednesday. Although Anita has lost some addresses due to rotation back to the States she has a new address for a Marine unit that has just deployed.

Bill Lofgren volunteered to be the Membership Chair and Bill Bolin will take over the Advertising Chair duties. President Ed thanked them for taking over these very important positions. You can help Bill Bolin out by telling him of someone you think would be a good advertiser in the O.C. by giving them a name and address and also your name so he can refer to you when he solicits the ad.

Following a break for lunch, 1st Vice President Terry Carr introduced our guest speaker, MAJ Michael Alvis, USAR, the Commander of F Company, 5-159th Aviation Regiment, which is the first Army Reserve MEDEVAC Unit since 1995. Before Mike began his talk he thanked all the members present for their prior service. Mike said his biggest fans are his family and he thanked them for all they do to help him make his job easier. He said in his earlier chat with President Ed he learned that Ed had been in the Infantry and they were referred to by the air crew as the “crunchies” and the mission of the medevac unit was to get down to the ground to take care of them and evacuate them as quickly as possible. Each medevac unit consists of twelve aircraft and now he is going to 15 which will bring him up to 109 personnel. Each crew consists of 2 pilots, a medic and a crew chief. The personnel in the units live in Ft. Myers, Orlando, Miami, Palm Bay and they come in to Clearwater to be instructed by Mike prior to becoming the crew chiefs and pilots. They not only fly but have to maintain the

See Luncheon Pg 8

The Retired Officers Wives Club

The Retired Officers Wives Club is pleased to announce the new board of officers for 2010-2011. Five elected members were installed on May 11th and proudly accepted their positions to perform the duties required of them for the coming year.



Pictured from RIGHT to LEFT:

President	Violet Smith
Vice President	Jackie Bohnker
Recording Secretary	Dorothy Plummer
Corresponding Secretary	Asa Myers
Treasurer	Chris Lillich

Congratulations to All
R.O.W.C. activities will resume in October.





Ed Lillich presenting MAJ Alvis with gift



MAJ Mike Alvis being introduced by Terry Carr



MAJ Mike Alvis with wife Brandy, son Lane and daughter Emily



Frank Johnson



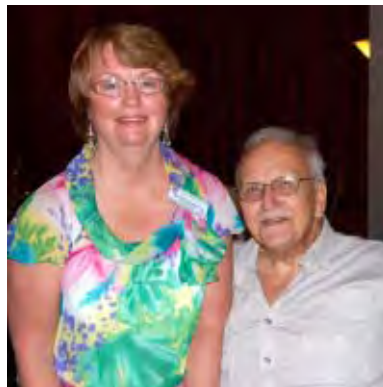
Thurm Dwyre, Addie Holland and Ed Frasso



Don Alexander



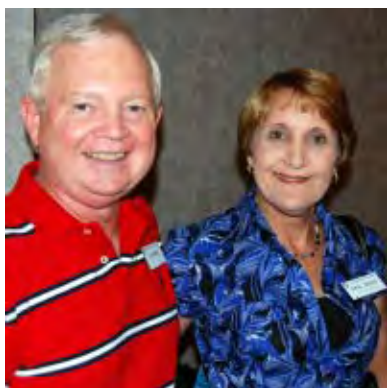
Joanna Kilroy



Maureen and Ed Connors



Martha and John Schoeppner



Van and Carol Barnes



Jim Patton and Cal Imboden



Charlene Sanders

Photos by Bill Lofgren





EC Meeting from Pg 4

level and in compliance with MOAA policy, the local TOPS Chair would act as a networker.

OC Advertisement: The Chapter is looking for new advertisers. If you have any suggestions or know of someone who you think would benefit from having an ad in the O.C. please contact Ed Lillich.

Hazel Murphy recruited a new member, Capt Paul Ditchett, USAF. Thank you Hazel.

There being no further business, Ed Lillich gave the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 1300 hours. The next executive committee meeting will be July 5, 2010.

Luncheon from Pg 6

aircraft. They crew, fix helicopters and fix people. In the last month they have flown 160 hours. The unit is based at the St. Petersburg/Clearwater Airport, by the Coast Guard Air Station. The unit is gearing up for rotation in the fall with normal rotation being an eight month tour and then two to three years off. The biggest shortage is experienced pilots. One of the differences between this unit and the active duty is that there is no base support. The unit has to rely on networking with the local community for support. Mike's wife, Brandy, is very active with the support structure. What the unit needs are volunteers to help, to come to the meetings and to the events. Brandy has been in the Guard, on active duty and in the reserves. She feels that what she is doing now is the most challenging and she encourages our members to go out and see the unit, participate in the family days and get to know the troops in the unit. Following the question and answer period Ed thanked Mike and Brandy and presented Mike with our traditional gift of monogrammed cocktail glasses. Ed assured Mike that he would encourage our members to get involved with the unit.

Chaplain George Brown gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

The Moon Landing

In President Kennedy's speech to Congress, on May 25, 1961, he expressed a concern that the United States was falling behind the Soviet Union in technology and prestige. He challenged the nation to put a man on the moon before the end of the decade.

A race was on to put a man on the moon. It was the mission of Apollo 11 to land two men on the moon, and then return safely to Earth. On July 16, 1969, forty-one years ago this month, with most Americans glued to their television sets, the Apollo 11 launched from the Kennedy Space Center. The crew consisted of: Neil Armstrong, Commander; Michael Collins, command module pilot; and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr., lunar module pilot.

On July 20, 1969, while most of us were again in front of our televisions, we heard the transmission "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The *Eagle* has landed."

Shortly thereafter Commander Neil Armstrong became the first man on the moon. He said the historic words, "One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

A camera in the Lunar Module provided live television coverage as Neil Armstrong climbed down the ladder to the surface of the moon.

The Lunar Module "Eagle" consisted of two parts: the descent stage and the ascent stage. The descent stage provided the engine used to land on the moon. It had four legs, a storage area for experimental gear, and a ladder for the crew to climb down to the moon's surface. The descent module also served as the launch platform for the ascent module when it came time to leave.

To walk on the moon's surface, the astronauts needed to wear a space suit with a back mounted, portable life support system. This controlled the oxygen, temperature and pressure inside the suit.

On the surface, the astronauts had to get used to the reduced gravity. They could jump very high compared to on Earth. The crew spent a total of two and a half hours on the moon's surface. While on the moon's surface, they performed a variety of experiments and collected soil and rock samples to return to Earth. Before returning to the Eagle, they planted and American flag on the moon's surface as a reminder of the accomplishment.

After returning to the Eagle the ascent rockets were fired and the Eagle returned to the command module to prepare for the return trip to Earth.

The Columbia then started the return trip home. On July 24, 1969, after re-entering the Earth's atmosphere, parachutes opened to safely lower the Columbia into the Pacific Ocean. After landing in the Ocean, the crew were retrieved by a helicopter and taken to the recovery ship, the "USS Hornet."

The crew and lunar samples were placed in quarantine until their health and safety could be confirmed.

Its forty-one years later and how many of us remember that historic period.

If this period of the space program still holds your interest a day trip to the Kennedy Space Center is worth the trip.

Lessons Learned — Root Cause

As a so-called "butter bar" lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, I was assigned to my first aircraft maintenance officer job in the early 1980s at Tinker AFB, Okla., and spent my first few months adapting to military culture and learning the acronym-laced language of the maintenance community. Needless to say, my learning curve was steep.

Much of my education took place at a daily maintenance meeting, where the wing's senior maintainers gathered to review the current aircraft status. The deputy commander for maintenance (DCM), a colonel, and the assistant deputy com-

See Root Cause, Pg 9



Root Cause Continued

mander for maintenance (ADCM), a lieutenant colonel, ran the meetings. While I learned much from the DCM, it was his assistant who ultimately had the bigger impact on me.

With his sharp mind, maintenance acumen, and penetrating questions, he could strike fear in those gathered in the room who weren't prepared. In addition, I always was fascinated by his vocabulary. In one moment, he'd be conversing with the elocution of a scholar, and in the next, he'd make a point by using imaginative off-color language — all to great effect.

About a year into my assignment, I was nearing the end of one of my night shifts when a radio call summoned me to the ADCM's office. After I gave him an aircraft status rundown, he offered to give me a ride to my vehicle.

We climbed into his Volkswagen that, legend had it, once had been firebombed by some servicemembers who disliked the disciplinary action he had imposed on them in a previous job as squadron commander. As he drove me to my car, he used the time to mentor me by sharing his wisdom on how to be a more effective leader. Although I don't recall all of his advice, the one thing I've always remembered was something he told me when he stopped the car, put on his parking brake, and looked over at me.

"Lieutenant," he said, "as a maintenance officer, the most important thing you need to remember is to say BS about 10 times a day." (Of course, he didn't use the abbreviation for the phrase.) I didn't quite understand what he was telling me, but I thanked him and bid him goodnight.

While driving home, I kept repeating in my mind what he'd said. As a graduate of Clemson University, S.C., I was a bit slow, but suddenly it dawned on me: Aircraft maintenance decisions are the difference between a mission's success or failure, between the life and death of an aircrew. In his artful way, he was telling me not to accept things as they initially appeared but rather to look harder, ask questions, and get to the root of the cause of an issue before rendering a solution. It's advice that would serve any leader well and an insight I tried to follow and pass along throughout my career.

— *Kenneth O. "Ken" Lynn is a retired Air Force colonel. He lives in Fleetwood, N.C*

July Birthdays

(50 to 96 years)

Day	LName	FName	Rank	SVC
02	Ashley	Kristine	LTC	USA (Ret)
27	Billington	Norton	LTC	USA (Ret)
20	Bryan	Hardy	LTC	USA (Ret)
07	Burke	Betty	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
08	Freese	Donald	CAPT	USN (Ret)
17	Hoodecheck	Vernice	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
03	Johnson	Frank	LCDR	USN (Ret)
18	Kersey	John	CDR	USN (Ret)
03	Kline	Allen	2d Lt	USAAF (Fmr)
02	Lofgren	William	Col	USAF (Ret)
24	McCormick	William	CDR	USN (Ret)
02	McGrath	Hazel	LCDR	USN (Ret)
26	Montrem	Helen	Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
19	Murphy	Hazel	1LT	USANC (Fmr)
04	Nelson	Landy	COL	USA (Ret)
21	Oliver	Richard	LT	USN (Ret)
25	Patton	Barbara	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
02	Poteat	Genevieve	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
21	Rozecki	Louise	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
05	Sanders	Charlene	Capt	USAF (Ret)
14	Shivers	Frances	Capt	USAFR (Fmr)
04	Talbitzer	John	LT	USN (Ret)
07	Travis	D. Timothy	LCDR	USN (Ret)
21	Vision	Michael	CDR	USN (Ret)
03	Ward	Wayne	CPT	USA (Ret)
20	Willis	Martha	Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
16	Young	Aylwyn	CDR	USCG (Act)

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Thru May 2010

Financial Report Summary for the Month of May – 2010

Officers Call Booster

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ (562.48)
..... Donations	\$ 250.00
..... Ad Income	\$ 0.00
..... Postage & Printing Expenses	\$ (276.87)
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ (589.35)

HOT Fund

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 2,197.40
..... Donations	\$ 576.00
..... 50/20	\$ 41.00
..... Expenses	\$ (595.71)
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 2,197.40

Scholarship Fund

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 2,309.00
..... Donations	\$ 400.00
..... Memorials	\$ 0.00
..... 50/50 Income	\$ 0.00
..... Expended	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 2,709.00

Operating Account

..... Balance, Beginning of Month	\$ 8,651.88
..... Monthly Luncheon	\$ 766.00
..... Dues/Give Me 10	\$ 110.00
..... Miscellaneous Income	\$ 0.00
..... Interest Earned	\$ 4.58
..... Luncheon Expense	\$ (720.00)
..... Supplies	\$ (122.15)
..... Printing	\$ (212.43)
..... Post Office	\$ (44.00)
..... Memorial to Scholarship	\$ 0.00
..... Other Organizations	\$ 0.00
..... Balance, End of Month	\$ 8,433.88



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Recruiting

We can all help in the recruiting of new members. If you know a retired or former military officer or surviving spouse who is not a MOAA member, invite them to a monthly meeting.





TAPS

Col Thurman G. Dwyre, USAF (Ret) 6/20/10

Our thoughts and prayers are with family and friends.

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Welcome Our New Members!

LTC Kristine Ashley, USA (Ret) 3581 Oak Lake Dr., Palm Harbor, FL 34684; 727-784-4534

LCDR "CJ" Johnson, USN (Ret) 2961 E. Vina del Mar Blvd, St Pete Beach, FL 33706; 727-360-6057

Sick List

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

- **LTC Sarah Niblack, USA (Ret)**
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Love, H. B. COL
Milford, John Lt Col
Murphy, Hazel 1LT
Palmer, Stew Col
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St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA

July Luncheon



16 July, 2010

Banquet Masters
8100 Park Blvd
Pinellas Park, FL

11:00 AM to 11:45 Social Hour
11:45 Meeting Called to Order
13:30 Meeting Adjourned

Guest Speaker:

LT Ryan Dilkey, USCGR

Subject: Eckerd College SAR Unit

LT Ryan Dilkey is currently the Coordinator of Eckerd College Search and Rescue (EC-SAR). He was a student at Eckerd and a participant on the team from 1994-1998. After graduation, he worked with the program as a Shop Supervisor and enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve in 1998. He was commissioned as a Reserve Officer with the CG in 2004 before returning to the team in 2006. He is currently a Lieutenant assigned as a Reserve Strategic Planner for CG Sector St. Petersburg. He has an undergraduate degree in Marine Biology from Eckerd and a Masters in College Student Affairs from USF.



LUNCHEON MEETING

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, July 16th

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• **Reservations by Wednesday July 14th**

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July Events:

- 4th:  Independence Day,
- 8th: Liberty Bell cracks 1835
- 15th: First flight Boeng 707 1954
- 16th: Apollo 11 lifts off for Moon 1969
- 20th: First Moon Landing
- 29th: NASA established 1958

Notice

In the future if you make a reservation for the monthly luncheon and fail to show, it will be necessary to charge you for the meal. We are charged for the number of reservations made and we must pay the caterer for the reservation number that we provide even when we have no shows. We appreciate your cooperation in helping with this situation.

