



# OFFICERS CALL

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



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

## President's Comments:

A great MOAA Florida Council of Chapters Convention is on the horizon. Hosted by the Calusa Chapter, it will take place 21 – 23 May 2010 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Fort Myers. An exciting agenda is planned for us with a variety of speakers, up-to-date information, camaraderie with friends old and new, good food and beverage, meaningful events, time for relaxation and enjoyment...and perhaps a surprise or two as well. Convention registration will take place at the Crowne Plaza on 21 May with the President's Reception that evening.



Chris and I attended the Winter President's conference at the Crowne Plaza on January 30th and can attest to its beauty and to the excellent accommodations. The islands of Sanibel and Captiva are close by. For those who will be going to this convention, hotel reservations should be booked through the Calusa Chapter group registration plan. Booking through the Calusa Chapter will save 11% in room taxes. There will not be a need to register with the hotel directly. Room rates will be \$90 per night with an upgrade option to a VIP room for only an additional \$15 per night. You may pick up Registration forms from Ed Lillich, Larry Fernald or Don Freese.

**See President's, Pg 3**

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## 2010 Convention !



New things blowing your way at the convention: There will be a time for military nurses in the Hospitality Room at 3:00 PM on Friday May 21 just to chat and hear about each other's experiences. Contact Dottie at [dccalusa@comcast.net](mailto:dccalusa@comcast.net). We are having a vendor's table for MOAA members who have written about their military times. If you would like to join the author's table, email Dottie; [dccalusa@comcast.net](mailto:dccalusa@comcast.net)

The new MOAA travel agency, ICE, will have a representative there to tell you about this new group, and they will have a drawing for a free weeks' vacation at one of their luxury resorts.

Our speaker for the All Hands Breakfast will be Gen. Dozier, who was captured by a terrorist group called "The Red Brigade" in Italy and held for 42 days, (Google James Dozier and read the Wikipedia account – fascinating!) and we Gen. Neal, Chairman of the board of MOAA will be our speaker for the Military Ball.

**Contest:** We have put a paper called "The Inside Scoop on the 2010 Convention" on the MOAA/ Florida Council of Chapters website. At the end of the paper you'll find a question. The first one to contact us with the correct answer will get a wine basket at the convention as a prize. To find the paper, Google MOAA/FCOC, then click on the "convention" tab, click on the year 2010 from the drop-down box, and click on the "Convention Info" tab.

Don't forget if you like to golf, sign up for the golf outing at The Dunes golf course on Sanibel Island, Lee Coast chapter of MOAA is organizing that one. Contact Dr. John Frymoyer at 239-472-9396 or [tofrys@aol.com](mailto:tofrys@aol.com) to sign up.

There's also the day's fishing trip with Captain Tony Stout in his 31' cabin cruiser, Fri. May 21 or Sun. May 23, \$75.00 and only 6 openings available for that, minimum of 4. Call Tony at 239-549-5629 or [astout34@comcast.net](mailto:astout34@comcast.net) to sign up.

For details and registration form, go to the Florida Council of Chapters website [www.moaafll.org](http://www.moaafll.org), click on the "convention" tab, then choose "2010" convention or you can contact Jim Conner at 239-542-5627 or [jmcfll@comcast.net](mailto:jmcfll@comcast.net).



# 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

### DIRECTORS

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

### EXECUTIVE ADVISORY BOARD

#### 2010 —

- CDR Bill Bolin, USN (Ret) ..... 584-1595  
 CDR Maureen Conners, USN (Ret) ..... 347-7976  
 Mrs. Barbara Walters, AuxMbr-A ..... 595-4619

#### 2010 & 2011 —

- Col Bill Lofgren, USAF (Ret) ..... 528-3946  
 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

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Advertising ..... LTC Janice Mogan, USA ..... 381-3997  
 Auxiliary Liaison Mrs Anita Harrow, AuxMbr-N .. 367-9050  
 Awards ..... Maj Gen Earl Peck, USAF ..... 525-1688  
 Bylaws/Policy Bk LtCol Fred Edwards, USMC ..... 360-2936  
 Chaplain ..... COL George Brown, USA ..... 866-6859  
 Chaplain Ass't ..... Capt Charlene Sanders USAF .... 894-6050  
 Data Base ..... Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF ..... 522-6237  
 Electronic Info ..... Lt Col Larry Fernald USAF ..... 522-6237  
 Historian: ..... LTC Marie Lorence, USA ..... 595-1342  
 HOT ..... Mrs Anita Harrow, AuxMbr-N .. 367-9050  
 JROTC ..... MAJ Ed Lillich, USA ..... 546-2246  
 Law: ..... CAPT Don Freese, USN ..... 360-3102  
 Legislative: ..... CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG ..... 393-4160  
 MacDill Liaison ... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Master at Arms ... CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG ..... 821-7365  
 Membership ..... Vacant .....  
 Memorial ..... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Newsletter ..... CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG ..... 393-4160  
 Nominating Cmte Col Bill Lofgren, USAF ..... 528-3946  
 Personal Affairs ... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Programs ..... LTC Terry Carr, USA ..... 392-6524  
 Publicity: ..... Mrs. Chris Lillich ..... 546-2246  
 Reservations ..... CDR Bill Bolin, USNR ..... 584-1595  
 ROWC Liaison .... Mrs Violet Smith, AuxMbr-A .... 595-5543  
 Scholarships: ..... Vacant .....  
 TOPS ..... COL Ron Merritt, USA ..... 367-9809  
 VA Vol Svc ..... CDR Maureen Conners, USN ... 347-7976  
 Vet Liaison ..... MAJ Ed Lillich, USA ..... 546-2246  
 Visitation ..... LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN .... 545-3884

## Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 289  
 Regular Members - 209  
 Auxiliary Members - 80  
 Inactive Members - (7)

### Military Services:

Army - 69                      USMC - 15  
 USAF - 71                      USCG - 7  
 Navy - 47                      NOAA - 0

2/19/2010

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

## CALENDAR

- March 19<sup>th</sup>**      VADM Norbert R. Ryan, Jr. USN-Ret  
**April 16<sup>th</sup>**      Professor Charles Rose, topic will be  
 GITMO  
**May 14<sup>th</sup>**      Professor Mike Allen, topic will be Military  
 Tribunals

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

**Call: Maj Ed Lillich 546-2246 or**

**Lt Col Larry Fernald, 522-6237**

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

- March 1<sup>st</sup>**      Monday  
**April 5<sup>th</sup>**      Monday  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup>**      Monday  
**June 1<sup>st</sup>**      Monday

## ROWC

### Luncheons:

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

**Bridge:** (1<sup>st</sup> 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.





Anita Harrow was going through some of her husband's papers and found this article, *Profile of a Submariner*, written in 1963 by Dr Brothers just after the loss of the USS Thresher. Tom and Anita had two very good friends who were on the Thresher when she went down.

### Profile of a Submariner

The loss of the submarine USS Thresher, SSN-593, on April 10, 1963, and 129 men had a special kind of an impact on the nation...a special kind of sadness, mixed with universal admiration for the men who choose this type of work. One could not mention the Thresher without observing, in the same breath how utterly final and alone the end is when a ship dies at the bottom of the sea....and what a remarkable specimen of man it must be who accepts such a risk. Most of us might be moved to conclude, too, that a tragedy of this kind would have a damaging effect on the morale of the other men in the submarine service and tend to discourage future enlistment. Actually, there is no evidence that this is so. What is it then, that lures men to careers in which they spend so much of their time in cramped quarters, under great psychological stress, with danger lurking all about them? Togetherness is an overworked term, but in no other branch of our military service is it given such full meaning as in the "silent service". In an undersea craft, each man is totally dependent upon the skill of every other man in the crew, not only for top performance but for actual survival. Each knows that his very life depends on the others and because this is so, there is a bond among them that both challenges and comforts them. All of this gives the submariner a special feeling of pride, because he is indeed a member of an elite corps. The risks, then, are an inspiration rather than a deterrent. The challenge of masculinity is another factor which attracts men to service on submarines. It certainly is a test of a man's prowess and power to know he can qualify for this highly selective service. However, it should be emphasized that this desire to prove masculinity is not pathological, as it might be in certain dare-devil pursuits, such as driving a motorcycle through a flaming hoop. There is nothing dare devilish about motivations of the man who decides to dedicate his life to the submarine service. He does, indeed, take pride in demonstrating that he is quite a man, but he does not do so to practice a form of foolhardy brinkmanship, to see how close he can get to failure and still snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. On the contrary, the aim in the submarine service is to battle danger, to minimize the risk, to take every measure to make certain that safety, rather than danger, is maintained at all times. Are the men in the submarine service braver than those in other pursuits where the possibility of a sudden tragedy is constant? The glib answer would be to say they are. It is more accurate, from a psychological point of view, to say they are not necessarily braver, but that they are men who have a little more insight into themselves and their capabilities. They know themselves a little better than the next man. This has to be so with men who have a healthy reason to

volunteer for a risk. They are generally a cut healthier than others of the similar age and background because of their willingness to push themselves a little bit farther and not settle for an easier kind of existence. We all have tremendous capabilities but are rarely straining at the upper level of what we can do; these men are. This country can be proud and grateful that so many of its sound, young, eager men care enough about their own stature in life and the welfare of their country to pool their skills and match them collectively against the power of the sea.

*(This is a report made by Dr Joyce Brothers after the loss of the USS Thresher in 1963.)*

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### President from Pg 1

Dress for all events is Convention shirt or similar attire except for the Military Ball where Mess Dress, Formal Attire or Business suit is suggested.

If you attend MOAA's new travel agency seminar you will hear about ICE. John Cullen, the representative of ICE will explain all the advantages of this new company that's now handling MOAA Travel. MOAA's signature cruise, 7 days in Alaska aboard the Holland America Zaandam, departs from Seattle on September 24, 2010. It looks great.

Plan to attend and see our own CAPT Don Freese installed as the Florida Council of Chapters President.

The Convention in 2011 will be a 7 day Convention at Sea aboard the Royal Caribbean Freedom of the Seas. It will depart from Cape Canaveral on May 8, 2011.

MOAA is an outstanding organization. Members do the difficult task of persuading our Government's leadership to do right by the men and women who have protected and those who continue to protect our way of life from those who would destroy it. America owes its service people, active and retired, for this protection. MOAA lobbies for these same people. MOAA is in the trenches and on the front lines every day striving to attain the support promised.

Each of us can contribute directly to this effort by bringing persons who believe in what MOAA is doing into our Chapter. I asked a good friend, Lt. Col. Theodore R. Wall USMC (Ret), to join us in this endeavor. He is now a member. I challenge each of you, the members of the best Chapter in Florida Council of Chapters, to ask a friend to do the same thing as Ted did, Join MOAA. Just Ask!

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### Did You Know

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.





## Executive Committee Meeting St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA; 1 February 2010

The meeting was called to order at 1130 hours with President Edward Lillich giving the invocation and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Seventeen members were present including; Bill Bolin, Basil Burrell, Terry Carr, Jim Conner, Fred Edwards, Larry Fernald, Don Freese, Anita Harrow, Chris Lillich, Ed Lillich, Bill Lofgren, Hazel Murphy, Johnnie Neville, Stu Palmer, Jim Patton, Charlene Sanders, Violet Smith and Bobbie Walters.



**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** There being no additions or corrections to the minutes, a motion was made by Fred Edwards, seconded by Don Freese to approve minutes as printed in the O.C. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Tabled

**First Vice President's Report:** Terry Carr reported that he is working diligently to obtain speakers for the upcoming year. Our own LtCol USMC (Ret) Fred L. Edwards, Jr. will be the speaker at the February luncheon, and Terry is working with Admiral Ryan's staff for the March 50th Anniversary Celebration meeting. The speaker for April will be announced in the next issue of the O.C. Discussion took place regarding the conflict with the Chapter meeting in May and the MOAA convention in Fort Myers. Larry Fernald made a motion to move the May luncheon meeting up a week to 14 May, motion seconded by Violet Smith and passed. All members are urged to attend the convention the weekend of May 21.

**H.O.T.** Anita Harrow sent thirty boxes out to the troops in January and is working on logistics for packing the February boxes. Anita thanked Larry for helping in January with transporting the boxes to the Post Office. Don Freese reported that 2500 Florida Guard have just been mobilized, one battalion being from Pinellas Park. Anita would like an address for the battalion in Pinellas Park.

**Scholarship Fund:** Stew Palmer was thanked for his several years of service as chairperson for the scholarship fund and has turned in all the materials and records for the next chairperson. The President is currently looking for someone to fill this position. An e-mail was received from Shelley thanking our Chapter for the dedicated commitment we have made to the scholarship fund.

**JROTC:** The area field event was held at Admiral Farragut Academy and George Brown was the presenter of the trophies. Ed Lillich gave the medal and certificate to the PMS&T at Gibbs for the upcoming graduation ceremonies and will visit with the other schools shortly.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Hazel Murphy and Johnnie Neville, recently installed directors on the board, were introduced.

Violet Smith reported that she has been in contact with Hazel McGrath who is doing well and is still at the Pavilion. Mike Tomasulo is in rehabilitation at the present time. Violet Smith, Auxiliary Chairperson for the FCOC attended the President's meeting in Fort Myers and was one of the presenters.

Anita Harrow, Auxiliary Liaison, reported that the National Committee sends out memos to share what the auxiliary members are doing in the Chapters. Suggestions will be found elsewhere in the O.C.

Larry Fernald has the 2010 chapter directory ready for print and it will be out to the members shortly

Don Freese reported that twenty chapter presidents attended the Florida Council President's meeting in Ft. Myers. Nominations were presented for officers to be elected at the May convention. Those nominated were Don Freese, President and Jim Connor, Vice President. With the nomination of Lt. Neil Schneider, USA (ret) from the NW FLA area all the AVP positions are filled. The Calusa Chapter, host for the 2010 convention will be presenting an outstanding program. There will be several activities on Friday prior to the traditional President's reception and there are many things outside the convention to participate in, such as golfing and deep sea fishing. Rooms are \$90 per night, all are with two doubles and a couch and reservations for the hotel are made through Calusa Chapter at the same time registration is made for the convention. This is a good opportunity for singles to share a room at \$30.00 per person.

The 2011 convention will be held at sea so there is no host hotel but the NW Florida Chapter asked to host the next winter meeting at the Hilton San Destin in Destin, Florida. This was approved by the board.

Jim Patton asked that a list of drivers be available for those members who would like to attend the luncheons but no longer drive. This will be looked into.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Membership:** Larry Fernald reported that January 31st was the cutoff date for renewing membership without submitting a new application. Fourteen did not renew due to relocation or other reasons and we are starting the year with 287 members and seven inactive with a ratio of 73% regular members and 27% Auxiliary members which puts us in compliance with the State codes. We need to get a membership renewal effort under way soon. The back page of the Officers Call has been changed to make it a stand alone page to have the speaker's bio, reservation form and upcoming events which can be printed separately and sent to prospective members.

Larry is creating the ads for the convention booklet for HOT and the Chapter and it will focus on our 50th Anniversary as a Chapter. He would like to have some comments from the troops for the HOT ad.

See EC Meeting Pg 8





# MOAA Legislative Update

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

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## DoD Budget on Pay Raise, Concurrent Receipt, TRICARE Fees

The Pentagon rolled out its FY2011 defense budget this week, proposing a \$549 billion base budget (a 3.4% increase over 2010) and \$159 billion more to support war operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

During testimony before the House and Senate Armed Services Committee this week, Secretary of Defense Gates outlined three major priorities in the DoD base budget:

- Strengthening the nation's commitment to the all-volunteer force
- Rebalancing America's defense posture to prevail in current conflicts
- Continuing DoD's commitment to reform, especially in acquisition

Highlights of initiatives proposed in the new budget include:

**Pay Raise** - A military pay increase of only 1.4%. This would match private sector pay growth between 2008 and 2009. But it would be the lowest military raise since 1963. If enacted, it would be the first year since 1999 without at least some progress in reducing a basic pay raise gap that still stands at 2.4%.

**Concurrent Receipt** - The budget again proposes a five-year plan to phase out the disability offset to military retired pay for all members whose service-caused conditions forced them into medical retirement. Congress failed to enact a similar proposal last year after being unable to identify cost offsets.

**Family Support** - The budget provides \$8.8 billion - an increase of \$450 million from last year - to emphasize the importance of child support and youth programs, spouse employment, commissaries, and schools.

**Health Care** - The budget proposes \$50.7 billion to fully fund the Defense Health Program without any TRICARE fee increases for retirees.

When asked about rising health costs, Secretary Gates made it clear he thinks retiree fees should rise. "There has not been an increase in the premium for TRICARE since the program was founded in 1995," he said. "I ask anybody to point me to a health insurance program that has not had a premium increase in 15 years...We absolutely want to take care of our men and women in uniform and our retirees, but at some point, there has to be some reasonable tradeoff between reasonable cost increases or premium increases or co-pays or something and the cost of the program."

Gates said that when DoD previously proposed fee hikes and cut the budget to reflect that, Congress refused to make the increases, so the funding shortfall had to be made up. Rather than facing that scenario again, DoD has proposed

full program funding, and looks to Congress for any action on TRICARE fees.

## Force Cut Coming for Coast Guard

The Coast Guard's newly announced FY2011 Posture Statement puts top priority on recapitalizing its aging air and surface fleet.

But MOAA was struck most by the proposed reductions in the Coast Guard's overall discretionary spending and manpower levels, compared to FY2010 – even while homeland security needs are increasing stress on Coast Guard mission requirements.

The proposed discretionary budget is down nearly 1 percent from FY2010 funding and calls for a net reduction of 773 positions (a reduction of 1,112 uniformed positions and an increase of 339 civilian full-time positions).

In order to meet its missions with a smaller budget and fewer people, the Coast Guard plans to decommission legacy assets and pursue consolidation initiatives.

For example, five of the twelve Maritime Safety and Security Teams (MSSTs) would be decommissioned, while regionalizing the remaining seven MSSTs.

The budget also plans a fifth 418-foot National Security Cutter, scheduled to replace 12 High Endurance Cutters that have been in service over 40 years.

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## Military Funeral Honors "Honoring Those Who Served"

The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for providing military funeral honors. "Honoring Those Who Served" is the title of the DOD program for providing dignified military funeral honors to Veterans who have defended our nation.

Upon the family's request, Public Law 106-65 requires that every eligible Veteran receive a military funeral honors ceremony, to include folding and presenting the United States burial flag and the playing of Taps. The law defines a military funeral honors detail as consisting of two or more uniformed military persons, with at least one being a member of the Veteran's parent service of the armed forces. The DOD program calls for funeral home directors to request military funeral honors on behalf of the Veterans' family. However, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration cemetery staff can also assist with arranging military funeral honors at VA national cemeteries. Veterans organizations may assist in providing military funeral honors. When military funeral honors at a national cemetery are desired, they are arranged prior to the committal service by the funeral home.

The Department of Defense began the implementation plan for providing military funeral honors for eligible Veterans as enacted in Section 578 of Public Law 106-65 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2000 on Jan. 1, 2000.





## Monthly Luncheon; 19 February 2010

Reported by **Chris Lillich**

**Attended – 79:** (78 reservations), 8 Member Guest,  
0 Chapter Guests, Walk ins 2  
[2 Cancels, 1 No-show]

The February business meeting was opened by President Ed Lillich at 11:45 a.m. The invocation was given by Chaplain Charlene Sanders and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President. Ed introduced new member LtCol Theodore Wall, USMC (Ret), guests Maj Jerry Minko, USAF (Ret) and his wife, Terry Minko and Dean Hunter, guest of Hazel Murphy. Fred Edwards introduced his and Pauline's son, Fred C. Edwards and their daughter-in-law, Cindy, who are visiting from Kansas City, MO. A warm welcome was given to all the visitors.



Don Freese asked the Chapter members to support the FCOC convention which will be held at the Crown Plaza in Fort Myers 21 – 23 May 2010. He would like to see a big presence from the St. Pete Chapter. Prices are very good - \$90 a night and each room is furnished with two double beds and a sofa bed, which means that three singles can stay in the same room for \$30 each per night. Accommodations and convention registration are on the same form, so there is no need to make an additional call for your room. The Calusa Chapter is going all out to make this as convenient for us as possible. They have reserved 160 room nights and have already sold 130. Don Freese will be installed as President of FCOC during this convention, so this is a big reason to attend the Convention. Don announced that the speaker for the April 16 meeting will be Professor Charles Rose, a retired Army JAG who will speak about GITMO. Our May meeting, the 14th, Professor Mike Allen will talk about Military Tribunals and Criminal Trials. The May meeting is one week earlier due to the FCOC convention being on May 21.

President Ed Lillich put out a plea for someone to take over the Scholarship Chair and also for someone to help with Membership. Please let him know if you can work with either of these two committees.

Hazel Murphy was the winner of the door prize and Pamela Eisenhart, Barbara Fernald, Pete Hermann and guest Cindy Edwards were the winners of the 50/50 drawings. Congratulations to all the winners.

Violet Smith, Auxiliary Liaison for the Florida Council of Chapters, asked the surviving spouses and spouses what they would like our Chapter to do for them. Would you like other activities with only the spouses and surviving spouses, or other suggestions and if so please see Violet or Anita Harrow. At the Chapter President's meeting a few weeks ago Violet encouraged all the Chapters to use the talents and skills of

the spouses and surviving spouses. There are twenty-six Chapter Auxiliary Liaisons in the State of Florida, for which Violet is very pleased.

Anita Harrow is getting ready to send out thirty more boxes to the troops and said some of the items needed were powdered drink mixes (because it makes the water more palatable), individual boxes of raisins and cocoa mix. Anita read an excerpt from one young man which gave us all a smile. It said in part *"The guys in my unit love the stuff you are sending."* It is a good feeling to know that the little things we do make such a big difference. She thanked everyone for all the support being given to our troops.

Larry Fernald said the new directory had been sent out and everyone should have received one. He apologized for an omission and said it would be corrected next year. I think we can excuse one little error when he did such a fantastic job with the rest of the directory. Thank you Larry for all the work you have done on this directory and all else you do.

Fred Edwards, chair of the By-laws/policy book, presented the proposed Bylaws change which was printed in full content in the February O.C. There being no further discussion the change was unanimously approved. This change will allow spouses of chapter members or of Life Members Emeritus to become Auxiliary Members. This is not intended to alter the status of current or future Auxiliary members who are widows or widowers. It will, however, let the chapter take advantage of the skills of spouses, and will give spouses a clear-cut opportunity to serve the chapter through elective office. The first change would clarify that individuals nominated to elective offices must be either chapter members, Life Members Emeritus, or Auxiliary Members and the second change would clearly define the Board of Directors as President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The third change is to move Section 5 of Article V to Section 1 (b) of Article VII. Thank you Fred for your clear and concise presentation of this change.

Following lunch Ed turned the microphone over to First VP Terry Carr who had the pleasure of introducing our guest speaker, LtCol Fred L Edwards, Jr. USMC (Ret), a member of the Chapter, former National board member of MOAA and past president of the Florida Council and Life Member Emeritus of the chapter. Fred opened with asking how many in the group had published a book and how many have written an unpublished book, a newsletter, news release or letter to the Editor and who has written a plain letter. Not many hands went up until he asked about *letter writers*. Naturally being associated with the military and separations all hands went up. He said some may question how a Marine "grunt" got into the field of writing. And he told us how he learned what you had to do to get material published. Two things he learned about very quickly were to write about something you know, and every writing rule can be broken. Fred is an avid and capable sailor, having owned and lived on a boat aptly named "Semper Fi". He has written dozens of articles for sailing

**See Luncheon from Pg 8**





Terry Carr Introducing Fred Edwards



Guest speaker Fred Edwards



Fred Edwards receiving gift from Ed Lillich



Barb and Larry Fernald



Ted Wall



Rich Green



Cal Imboden



Fred Jr., Pauline, Fred Sr. and Cindy Edwards



Charlie Parsons



Sherry Freese



Violet Smith and Hattie Hunt



Janice Mogan and Hazel McGrath

Photos by Bill Lofgren





## EC Meeting from Pg 4

### NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion took place regarding having a HOT table at the convention. The decision was to have the table and raffle off a basket as was done last summer.

**MOAA Vacations:** John Culley, a MOAA member from Hilton Head, SC presented a new program designed to save money and provide rewards. Don Freese is planning on taking a trip through the program ICE and he will have more information for us at a later date. The next Presidents meeting will be held September 16 – 18 in Jacksonville, FL.

There being no further business Chaplain Charlene Sanders gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 1245 hours. The next executive meeting will be held on 1 March 2010 at Perkins Restaurant.

## Luncheon from Pg 6

magazines and wrote three books on sailing, one being “Charter Your Boat for Profit.” “The Bridges of Vietnam” was created by using letters he had sent to Pauline and additional research when he returned home from Vietnam. Some of his other books include “The Buffie Brigade (we all know what Buffies are – many military households have them - ceramic replicas of elephants from Vietnam.), and “Sailors are Reasonable: The Saga of Foredeck Fred.” Fred writes a column entitled Crosshairs – Military Matters in Review (www.milmat.net) and has written content for Pauline’s website Genealogy Makes History at www.frededwards.net. Fred’s final words of advice are: if you want to be a writer you must keep journals, and market before you write. After a great presentation the floor was opened to questions. Ed presented Fred with a set of drink glasses to be added to his collection of the same. The next luncheon meeting will be 19 March at 1100 hours at Banquet Masters. This will be the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of our Chapter. Our speaker will be Admiral Norb Ryan, President of MOAA. Invitations will be sent to other Chapters for this event and all members are encouraged to attend and bring a guest. Please mark your calendar. The benediction was given by Chaplain Charlene Sanders.

### AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Save the Date

For

"A SPRING COFFEE"

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Anita Harrow and Violet Snith

## March Birthdays

(35 to 97 years)

| <u>Day</u> | <u>LName</u> | <u>FName</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>SVC</u>  |
|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 22         | Bartlett     | William      | CAPT        | USN (Ret)   |
| 27         | Choronenko   | Iwan         | Lt Col      | USAF (Ret)  |
| 05         | Clark        | Brian        | LT          | USN (Res)   |
| 30         | Foutz        | Delores      | Mrs.        | AuxMbr-A    |
| 26         | Haley        | Alda         | CDR         | USN (Ret)   |
| 13         | Hamilton     | Rosemary     | Mrs.        | AuxMbr-     |
| 17         | Hundley      | Charles      | Lt Col      | USAF (Ret)  |
| 22         | Imboden      | John         | 2nd Lt      | USAAF (Fmr) |
| 16         | Isley        | Anne         | Mrs.        | AuxMbr-A    |
| 25         | Jackson      | Mallett      | Col         | USMC (Ret)  |
| 04         | Phillips     | Bettye       | Mrs.        | AuxMbr-A    |
| 02         | Reischmann   | Richard      | Maj         | USAF (Ret)  |
| 22         | Roberson     | Harold       | Col         | USMC (Ret)  |
| 29         | Spencer      | Denzel       | MAJ         | USA (Ret)   |
| 29         | Vitters      | Cynthia      | LTC         | USA (Ret)   |
| 27         | Wildes       | Ronald       | Lt Col      | USAF (Ret)  |



## Welcome Our New Members!

**COL Robert “Bob” Murphy, USA (Ret),**  
10858 97th Street North, Largo, FL 33773  
(727) 392-5870

**LtCol Theodore “Ted” Wall, USMC (Ret),**  
9218 35th Way, Pinellas Park, FL 33782  
(727) 579-1924

### Distinguished Sailors Series of Stamps Unveiled

On Thursday, February 4th, 2010, the US Postal Service and the US Navy Memorial introduced the latest set of stamps to honor those who served our nation. The Distinguished Sailors stamps highlights four men (William S. Sims, Arleigh A. Burke, John McCloy and Doris “Dorie” Miller) who, throughout their service, preformed many feats of excellence. The event attracted both those ready to get their hands on the new stamps and others who were glad to see the accomplishments of these men given recognition by the Postal Service.

### Former Guardsman Goes for Bobsled Gold

After finishing sixth in the two-man Olympic bobsled competition Feb. 21, former Army World Class Athlete Program bobsled driver Steven Holcomb said he looks forward to the upcoming four-man event and ending the U.S. drought of 62 years with no gold.



## 2010 Scholarship Fund Donors (Includes donations to National MOAA)

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

### ••GOLD –

Barton, Ann Mrs.  
Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
Freese, Don CAPT  
Isley, Anne Mrs.  
Lofgren, Bill Col  
Love, H. B. COL  
Palmer, Stew Col  
Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
Sims, Robert Maj

Member donations ONLY:  
\$1,143 as of 2/19/2010

### ••SILVER –

Neville, Johnnie Mrs.  
Trahan, Creighton LTC

### ••BRONZE –

Brown, Gary B Gen  
Christy, Marge Mrs  
Lawson, George Col  
Tondreau, Herb CWO4  
Vitters, Cindy LTC  
Walters, Barbara Mrs.

## 2009 Help Our Troops Donors

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

### ••GOLD –

Barton, Ann Mrs.  
Bolin, Bill CDR  
Christy, Marge Mrs  
Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
Freese, Don CAPT  
Isley, Anne Mrs.  
Jessup, Jean Mrs.  
Lofgren, Bill Col  
Love, H. B. COL  
Palmer, Stew Col  
Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
Sims, Robert Maj  
Smith, Paul BG

### ••SILVER –

Lanier, Laurie Maj  
Shine, Jack Col  
Tondreau, Herb CWO4

### ••BRONZE –

Lawson, George Col  
Lorence, Marie LTC  
McGrath, Hazel LCDR  
Plummer, Dot Mrs.

Member donations ONLY:  
\$780 as of 2/19/2010

## Membership Update:

As of the end of 2009, Chapter membership was 315. However, due to some folks moving and some not renewing their membership, that 315 number was reduced to 287 as of 1 January 2010. Since then, we have had two new members, bringing us to today's total membership of 289.

(Please note that per our ByLaws, we carried the 315 total until 31 January 2010 to give some of those folks a chance to renew. And, a few did.)

Unlike last year, where we were actively engaged in hosting the Florida Council of Chapters 2009 State Convention, this year will see a full court press to bring new members into the Chapter and strengthen MOAA at the grass roots level, where it really matters.

Each of us carries a responsibility to help OUR chapter grow. Having said that, I need to elaborate on things we can do to bring in new members.

First, and perhaps foremost, invite your retired officer friends and spouses to attend a luncheon or two. Let them experience first hand just what a great chapter this is.

Second, and I am guilty of not doing this, wear your MOAA pin. That alone will open a door with others who see it and ask about it. We've gotten many new members from conversations that begin, "What is that other flag on your lapel pin?" (Violet Smith has lapel pins for sale should you need one. They are \$5 each, or two for \$9.)

And, third, support the Membership Chair as we begin the 2010 membership drive. He or she may be calling on you to talk to some of your neighbors about the chapter.

Membership Chair? No name given? He or she?

That's right. You will note elsewhere in the *Officers Call* that we are in need of a Membership Chair to lead the effort to enroll new Chapter members. Please consider this vitally important position. There are many folks standing by to help. All we need is a leader.

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## 2010 Officers Call BOOSTER Donors

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

### ••GOLD –

Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
Freese, Don CAPT  
Isley, Anne Mrs.  
Lofgren, Bill Col  
Love, H. B. COL  
Neville, Johnnie Mrs.  
Palmer, Stew Col  
Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
Sims, Robert Maj

### ••SILVER –

Butler, Mildred Col  
Tondreau, Herb CWO4

### ••BRONZE –

Lanier, Laurie Maj  
Lawson, George Col

Member donations ONLY:  
\$520 as of 2/19/2010





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[gculverhouse@dewluxurymotorcars.com](mailto:gculverhouse@dewluxurymotorcars.com)

Thru May 2010

## Financial Report Summary for the Month of January – 2010

### Officers Call Booster

|   |    |          |
|---|----|----------|
| ..... Balance, Beginning of Month ..... | \$ | 0.00     |
| ..... Donations .....                   | \$ | 350.00   |
| ..... Ad Income .....                   | \$ | 0.00     |
| ..... Postage & Printing Expenses ..... | \$ | (358.60) |
| ..... Balance, End of Month .....       | \$ | (8.60)   |

### HOT Fund

|   |    |          |
|---|----|----------|
| ..... Balance, Beginning of Month ..... | \$ | 3,457.65 |
| ..... Donations .....                   | \$ | 250.00   |
| ..... Expenses .....                    | \$ | (511.90) |
| ..... Balance, End of Month .....       | \$ | 3,195.75 |

### Scholarship Fund

|   |    |        |
|---|----|--------|
| ..... Balance, Beginning of Month ..... | \$ | 104.00 |
| ..... Donations .....                   | \$ | 565.00 |
| ..... Memorials .....                   | \$ | 60.00  |
| ..... 50/50 Income .....                | \$ | 70.00  |
| ..... Expended .....                    | \$ | 0.00   |
| ..... Balance, End of Month .....       | \$ | 729.00 |

### Operating Account

|  |    |            |
|--|----|------------|
| ..... Balance, Beginning of Month .....  | \$ | 10,210.73  |
| ..... Monthly Luncheon .....             | \$ | 54.00      |
| ..... Dues/Give Me 10 .....              | \$ | 450.00     |
| ..... Miscellaneous Income .....         | \$ | 28.43      |
| ..... Installation Banquet .....         | \$ | 2,475.00   |
| ..... Banquet Expense .....              | \$ | (2,558.43) |
| ..... Memorial to Scholarship Fund ..... | \$ | (60.00)    |
| ..... VA/JROTC .....                     | \$ | 100.00     |
| ..... Name Tags .....                    | \$ | (5.00)     |
| ..... Nonrecurring (website) .....       | \$ | (129.35)   |
| ..... Printing .....                     | \$ | (84.56)    |
| ..... Other Expenses .....               | \$ | (236.25)   |
| ..... Balance, End of Month .....        | \$ | 10,054.54  |



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to your country.*





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### Military Discount

Advance Auto Parts is offering a 10% Military discount



## Sick List

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

*While Hazel is recovering, please contact  
CWO4 Jim Patton, USCG (Ret) 727-393-4160*

- LTC Sarah Niblack, USA (Ret)
- COL Roger Shields, USA (Ret)
- LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN (Ret)
- Col Thurm Dwyre, USAF (Ret)
- COL Dale Balke, USA (Ret)
- Lt Col John Milford, USAF (Ret)



## TAPS

**Maj Emery O. Cormier, USAF (Ret), 1/24/2010**

Our thoughts and prayers are with family and friends.

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Thru June 2010

## Beware of the Irish

Saddam Hussein was sitting in his office wondering who to invade next when his telephone rang. “Hallo! Mr. Hussein,” a heavily accented voice said. “This is Paddy down in County Cavan, Ireland. I am ringing to inform you that we are officially declaring war on you!”

”Well, Paddy,” Saddam replied, “This is indeed important news! Tell me, how big is your army?”

”At this moment in time,” said Paddy after a moment’s calculation, “there is myself, my cousin Sean, my next door neighbor Gerry, and the entire dominoes team from the pub — that makes 8!”

Saddam sighed. “I must tell you Paddy that I have 1 million men in my army waiting to move on my command.”

”Begorra!”, said Paddy, “I’ll have to ring you back!”

Sure enough, the next day Paddy rang back. “Right Mr. Hussein, the war is still on! We have managed to acquire some equipment!”

”And what equipment would that be, Paddy?” Saddam asked.

”Well, we have 2 combine harvesters, a bulldozer and Murphy’s tractor from the farm.”

Once more Saddam sighed. “I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 16 thousand tanks, 14 thousand armored personnel carriers, and my army has increased to 1 and a half million since we last spoke.”

”Really?!” said Paddy “I’ll have to ring you back!”

Sure enough, Paddy rang again the next day. “Right Mr. Hussein, the war is still on! We have managed to get ourselves airborne! We’ve modified Ted’s ultra-light with a couple of rifles in the cockpit and the bridge team has joined us as well!”

Saddam was silent for a minute, then sighed. “I must tell you Paddy that I have 10 thousand bombers, 20 thousand MiG 19 attack planes, my military complex is surrounded by laser-guided surface-to-air missile sites, and since we last spoke, my army has increased to 2 million.”

”Faith and begorra!”, said Paddy, “I’ll have to ring you back.”

”Sure enough, Paddy called again the next day. “Right Mr. Hussein, I am sorry to tell you that we have had to call off the war.”

”I’m sorry to hear that” said Saddam. “Why the sudden change of heart?”

”Well,” said Paddy “We’ve all had a chat, and there’s no way we can feed 2 million prisoners.”



**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY**





# St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA

## March Luncheon



**50th Anniversary St Pete Chapter**  
**Friday**  
**19 March, 2010**

**Banquet Masters**  
**8100 Park Boulevard Blvd**  
**Pinellas Park, FL**

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



VADM Ryan

**Guest Speaker:**

**VADM Norb Ryan**

**President MOAA**

VADM Ryan is a 1967 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, a graduate of George Washington University, with a Master of Science Degree in Personnel Administration, and the Senior Officials in National Security Program at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Admiral Ryan served on active duty for 39 years, counting the four years in the Naval Academy. He has commanded aviation units at the squadron, wing, and fleet levels and has directed the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs. He served as the 52nd Chief of Naval Personnel before retiring and assuming his current position in September 2002.

VADM Ryan is the 9th President of MOAA.

### LUNCHEON MEETING

**11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• **Reservations by Wednesday Mar 17<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Each reservation \$12:**

Corned Beef & Cabbage: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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- 1<sup>st</sup>: Peace Corps Anniversary
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: National Anthem Day
- 5<sup>TH</sup>: 95th Anniversary Navy Reserve
- 12<sup>th</sup>: Girl Scout Day
- 17<sup>th</sup>: **St. Patrick's Day**
- 20<sup>th</sup>: 1st Day of Spring (Finally)
- 29<sup>th</sup>: Coca-Cola was Invented

