



OFFICERS CALL

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



★★★★★ Five Star Chapter ★★★★★

Vol XV No.V

May 2015

President's Comments:

New luncheon location, effective with the May luncheon!

After many years at Banquet Masters, the Executive Committee decided to move the luncheon location to the Pasadena Yacht Club, 6300 Pasadena Point Blvd South, Gulfport, FL. Pasadena Yacht Club is a gated community, so plan on arriving a few minutes early to allow time to get through the entry gate. And, once through the entry gate, proceed straight ahead and the club will be on your left.



It was a somewhat difficult decision to leave Banquet Masters, because the folks there are always so nice and hard working. And, of course, the food is great. But, with the new facility, the available room was just not compatible with our operation.

Over the course of the last three months, we found several locations that would meet our needs, but the issue with nearly all of them became the cost of the meal and what the meal was to be....a hot plated meal, a buffet, or a traditional lunch of soup and sandwiches.

In the end, we were able to still get a plated hot lunch. We will, though, have to increase the price of the meal to \$16 to cover our costs. I'm certain that the one dollar increase will be well worth it.

Many of our fellow chapter members worked long hours to research and locate another option for our luncheons, but it was Pauline Edwards who pulled the right strings and got the Pasadena Yacht Club on board. Thank you, Pauline. And, thank you to all who worked on this project.

You'll notice we have a new member, CDR Bob Ammon, USCG (Ret). Bob and I have know each other since, well, since General Peck was a Captain. You'll also note that Bob listed me as his sponsor, which means a free meal for me. However, I am going to raffle off that free lunch at the June luncheon. So, be there--you might win a free lunch on me.

May is our annual Chapter Memorial Service where we pay tribute to those chapter members and spouses who have passed away in the past year.

Safe travels to our snowbirds as they head back north, and again in the Fall as they come back to the Sunshine State.

Free Lunch Winners

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

New Member: CDR Bob Ammon, USCG (Ret)
Sponsor: Larry Fernald

Please Note

On the reservation form the increase in price to **\$16.00** and the need to make reservations by **Tuesday** prior to the luncheon, in order to have the correct number of meals prepared.

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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

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- President- Lt Col Larry Fernald, USAF 522-6237
- 1st VP- CDR Glen Crabb, USN (Ret) 561-0697
- 2nd Mrs Betty Finley AuxMbr-N 391-5908
- Secretary- Mrs. Ginni Eichholz AuxMbr Spouse 347-9538
- Treasurer- Maj Pete Dawson, USAF (Ret) 894-3761

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 - LTC William Eichholz, USA (Ret) 347-9538
 - Mrs Evelyn Hamilton, AuxMbr-A 399-1272
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 - Capt Frances "Fran" Shivers, USAFR (Fmr) .. 347-9538
- Immediate Past President**
- LTC Terry Carr, USA (Ret) 459-4026

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- Awards Vacant
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- 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 CAPT Peter Gunderson.....404-304-3313
- Membership Mrs Betty Finley AuxMbr-N ... 391-5908
- 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
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- 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

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

CALENDAR

- May 15th Memorial Service
- June 19th Ms. Andrea Rand, MOAA
- July 17th
- Aug 21st

**** Need a ride to the luncheon?
Call: Lt Col Larry Fernald 522-6237**

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

- May 4th Monday
- June 1st Monday
- July 6th Monday

MILITARY OFFICERS WIVES' CLUB

Luncheons:

- Next luncheon will be Tuesday May 12th Banquet Masters
1130 hours 13355 49th Street N.
Largo

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

- Reservations or Information: Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272

Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 223
Regular Members - 148
Auxiliary Members - 53
AuxMbr-Spouse - 22
Inactive Members - 0

Military Services:

Army - 61 USMC - 10
USAF - 39 USCG - 7
Navy - 31 NOAA - 0

4/25/2015

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.



Visit our Chapter Web Site =>





Minutes

Reported by **Ginni Eichholz**
Monthly Luncheon; 17 April 2015

Attended – 35: (32 reservations), 0 Member Guest, 3 Chapter Guests, 4 Walk in, 0 Cancel, 1 No Shows

The luncheon was called to order by Pres Larry Fernald.

Invocation by Chaplain George Brown.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Pres Larry Fernald.

Announcements: We are in need of a Master at Arms.

Guest: John Manning, guest of Fred Olson.

Honor Flight 21 April 21st 80 Veterans will be on flight.

Door prize winner Bill Lofgren.

50/50 winners John Manning and Fran Shivers.

Rose Munchbach welcomed back after shoulder injury.

The Florida state convention will be 21-22 May in St Augustine.

Glen Crabb introduced guest speaker Elliott Steele of Vincent House, a rehabilitation service for persons suffering from mental illness. Stephanie Whitford and Mike Taddeo accompanied Elliott and told us what Vincent house meant to them.

Next meeting 15 May will be an observance of Memorial Day



Executive Committee Meeting 6 April 2015

Meeting called to order by President Larry Fernald.

Invocation by Chaplain George Brown.

Pledge of Allegiance led by President Larry Fernald.

Glen Crabb reported that PA system at Banquet Masters still not reliable. We may meet in theater for April luncheon.

HOT committee: knitting projects, stump covers and lap blankets, have exceeded expectations so they are to share with program at Ed White.

Chris Lillich has broken left humus will be in cast about a month

Old Business:

Bayou Club not available for April 17 therefore luncheon will be at Banquet Masters

Larry Fernald motioned to strike prior motion to meet April, May and June luncheons at Bayou Club, Violet 2nd, motion rescinded.

New Business:

Roger Popham asked if we had committed to a monetary amount for Heaven on Earth for Vets. Requested funds for supplies to clean yards for Heaven on Earth for vets. Ed Lillich moved that MOAA give \$200.00 from chapter funds to be reimbursed from HOT funds if it falls under HOT Charter.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm

Memorial Day poppies and the woman who launched a movement

By Cathy Maxwell, Published May 24, 2013, FoxNews.com

Every Memorial Day, when I run into the grocery store to pick up those last minute items for the three day weekend's picnic, I'm met with members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) selling their poppies.

We cherish, too, the poppy red/ that grows on fields where valor led;

It seems to signal to the skies/that blood of heroes never dies

— “We Shall Keep the Faith” by Moina Michael

I remember as a kid that it was very common to see paper poppies being sold around Memorial Day. You could even go to the post office and purchase one for a donation.

They were fun things to buy and twist around a purse strap or a button but I didn't know what they meant until I came across the poem by Moina Michael that launched the movement.

An educator and humanitarian, Moina Michael was a part of the generation that lived through World War I. The casualties of this war were spectacular. Eight million soldiers died. Twenty-one million were wounded. This was warfare on a scale we had never known before.

Like many of her time, Michael was touched by Colonel John McCrae's poem “In Flanders Fields” that described the poppies growing between the grave markers of those who had fought valiantly.

She was inspired to write her own poem “We Shall Keep the Faith” and took to wearing a memorial poppy so that she would never forget those who had made the ultimate sacrifice.

However, she took her tribute a step farther.

In 1918, at the University of Georgia, she taught a class of disabled veterans and realized how much financial support these men would need in their lives.

“And now the Torch and Poppy Red — we wear in honor of our dead.

Fear not that ye have died for naught; We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought in Flanders Fields.”

— “We Shall Keep the Faith” by Moina Michael



How The Coast Guard Earned Its Stripe

Origins of the ‘racing stripe’

How a president, talented industrial designers and service leaders created the modern Coast Guard’s brand identity

By William H. Thiesen, Ph.D.



Coast Guard cutter Waesche (WMSL-751) pulls into Honolulu Harbor at Coast Guard Base Sand Island, Hawaii. The Waesche was there to resupply before joining the Pacific Command’s 7th Fleet for training with United States partner nations in the Asia-Pacific region.

On Ocean Station November in the Pacific Ocean in October 1956, the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Pontchartrain* was responsible for rescuing a downed transoceanic passenger aircraft. On the 19th, the Pan American clipper *Sovereign of the Skies* lost two of her engines en route from Hawaii to California. After the aircraft radioed the cutter and ditched, the cutter sent out its small boats and gathered all 31 passengers and crew. When one survivor gained the safety of the cutter deck, he gratefully exclaimed, “Thank goodness for the Navy!”

Sadly for the Coast Guard, this case was one of dozens in which the service seemed unrecognizable to the public it served. In the intervening years, however, the service has experienced a rapid shift from mistaken identity to an instantly recognizable brand. Today, mariners in distress understand exactly who is arriving to help them, owing in large part to the prominent orange stripe painted on every Coast Guard vessel and aircraft.

Jack Kennedy was acutely aware of the importance of imagery, having relied heavily on image building in his successful 1960 presidential campaign. When they moved into the White House in 1961, the president and first lady began an effort to reinvent the image of the presidency. With the aid of professional designers, first lady Jacqueline Kennedy redecorated the White House interior. The Kennedys also met with architects to direct the design and renovation of buildings surrounding Lafayette Square, a park located next to the White House.

Jack Kennedy relied heavily on image building in his successful 1960 presidential campaign.

President Kennedy next undertook a redesign of the presidential jet *Air Force One*. Kennedy believed an initial design and paint scheme provided by the Air Force appeared too regal. On the advice of the first lady, he turned to French-born industrial designer Raymond Loewy, whose work had been recognized the world over during the postwar period. Loewy’s *Air Force One* design won immediate praise from Kennedy and the press, and the aircraft became an important symbol of the president and the United States in official visits across the country and overseas.

Delighted by the look of *Air Force One*, Kennedy granted Loewy’s request for an appointment on May 13, 1963. During the meeting and another the next day, the men discussed improving the visual image of the federal government, and Kennedy suggested Loewy start with the Coast Guard. Shortly after the meetings, the design firm of Raymond Loewy/William Snaith, Inc. received a contract for a 90-day feasibility study. In January 1964, the firm recommended the Coast Guard adopt an identification device similar to a commercial trademark—a symbol readily identifiable from a distance, easily differentiated from other government or commercial emblems or logos and adaptable to a wide variety of air and sea assets.

The effort became known as the Integrated Visual Identification Program. During the prototyping process, Loewy/Snaith suggested using a wide red bar to the upper right of a narrow blue bar canted at 64 degrees and running from right to lower left. The Loewy/Snaith team designed its own stylized version of the traditional crossed-anchor Coast Guard emblem for placement on the center of the red bar. Within the service, the design became known as the “racing stripe” or “slash” emblem.

The service tested the racing stripe design using cutters and facilities in the Coast Guard’s 7th District, in Florida, because of mild weather conditions and the variety of sea assets stationed there. Coast Guardsmen painted the prototype slash on the cutters *Diligence* and *Androskoggin* as well as a buoy tender, service vehicles and buildings in Miami. At North Carolina’s Air Station Elizabeth City, crews affixed the slash to a Sikorsky HH-52 helicopter, a Grumman HU-16 “Albatross” amphibian and a Lockheed HC-130 “Hercules” fixed-wing aircraft.

During the prototyping process, the Coast Guard decided against the Loewy stylized shield and opted for the service’s traditional shield emblem instead. While the plan received the stamp of approval, details were ironed out during the initial rollout. By early spring 1967, most outstanding issues had been resolved, including the lettering font and paint color specifications. On April 6, 1967, Coast Guard Commandant Edwin Roland issued an order that formally ended four years of design study and experimentation with wide implementation of the Integrated Visual Identification System.

See Stripe Pg 8





MOAA Legislative Update

Edited by **Jim Patton**

From MOAA and other sources

House Committee Rejects

DoD Budget Proposals

April 24, 2015

On April 15, MOAA chapter and council leaders from across the country visited nearly every congressional office to speak out against the DoD’s proposed changes to TRICARE, pay and benefits. MOAA members strengthened this initiative by sending their elected officials nearly 44,000 communications reaffirming this message.



The House Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee (HASC-P) listened. On Thursday morning, the Subcommittee released their mark-up of H.R. 1735, the FY 2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). None of DoD’s proposals to cut pay and benefits were included.

“The mark provides our warfighters, retirees and their families the care and support they need, deserve and earned,” said panel chair Joe Heck (R-Nev.).

The subcommittee rejected DoD’s request to reduce the commissary subsidy that would have led to reduced hours and operating days. Before making changes to the commissary system, subcommittee members are waiting for a congressionally mandated study on the effects of price markups in commissaries, which is due in September.

The subcommittee also advanced measures requiring DoD to improve sexual assault response and prevention efforts for male servicemembers. Additionally, the bill included continued funding for local schools with significant numbers of military dependents.

Although the subcommittee rejected the DoD’s budget driven proposals, it did include controversial aspects of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission’s (MCRMC) proposals to overhaul military retirement.

House Tackles MCRMC Recommendations

April 24, 2015

The House Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee (HASC-P) embraced controversial changes to military retirement in its version of the FY 2016 defense bill along with several other recommendations of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission (MCRMC).

The retirement overhaul combines the existing defined benefit, cliff-vesting retirement plan, with a transportable defined contribution plan. Servicemembers will contribute to a portable Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) account, with a government-matching and government-contribution program.

To pay for the increased costs of a transportable career device for more troops, the proposal slashes the existing military retirement annuity by 20 percent. Although MOAA supports providing a transportable career device for those serving less than 20 years of service, it should not come at the expense of those who stay.

The bill seeks to overhaul the military retirement system by October 2017. Current servicemembers will have the option to opt-in to the new system. Existing retirees will not be affected.

Of the MCRMC’s 15 proposed recommendations, the subcommittee addressed 11 of them, including:

Modernizing the current military retirement system by blending the existing defined benefit with a defined contribution plan.

Requiring the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a joint uniform formulary.

Consolidating the current number of Reserve Component status category authorities under which Reserve Component members may be called to duty from 30 to 6 starting in October 2017.

What was not included in the subcommittee mark were several other sweeping recommendations made by the MCRMC, including phasing-out the TRICARE health system in favor of subsidized commercial insurance plans, an additional expensive option for survivors benefits, and the merging of commissary and exchange services.

After speaking at MOAA’s Council Presidents’ dinner, HASC Chairman Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) said, “People are our most important thing. We want to get it right.”

HASC-P Chair Rep. Joe Heck (R-Nev.) echoed Thornberry’s thoughts. “We couldn’t do [TRICARE] justice with only a three-month review.”

The Dangers of Retirement Reform

Defined contribution plans are unpredictable and contingent on variables like fund choice, rates of return, member contributions, inflation, cost-of-living increases, and other economic factors. The success of the commission’s proposal is completely dependent on the financial literacy of the force.

Unfortunately, the MCRMC found that only 12 percent of servicemembers surveyed said that they received financial information from their command or installation.

The subcommittee’s embrace of the new retirement proposal came as a surprise to observers. The administration has yet to release its perspective on the MCRMC report, but is expected to respond by the end of April.

MOAA and 21 other associations expressed caution and concern about retirement changes since the MCRMC’s report release in January. This kind of major reform requires further study and analysis because of the potential impact a blended system could have on the retention of the mid-grade officer and NCO corps.

See Legislature Pg 8



Chaplain George Brown delivering the invocation



Guest speaker Elliott Steele and President Larry Fernald,



Guest speaker Elliott Steele with Vincent House members Stephanie Whitford and Mike Taddeo



Vincent House guest Mike Taddeo addressing us



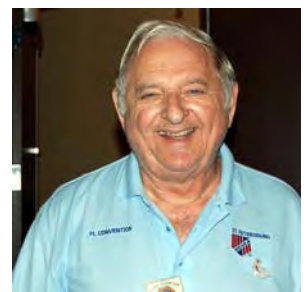
Guest John Manning and Host Fred Olson



Jack Westman



Vincent House guest Stephanie Whitford addressing us



Fred Schlager



Fran Shivers receiving 50/50 drawing from Rose Munchbach



Attendees



Rose Munchbach presenting 50/50 Award to guest John Manning



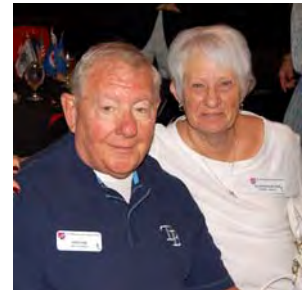
Virginia Balke and Betty Finley



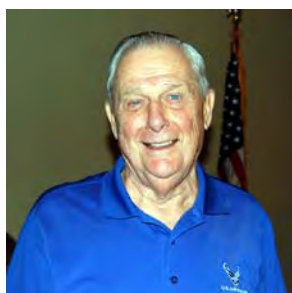
George Stenehjelm and Chaplain George Brown



Sherry Freese



Ken and Ellen Marie Fine



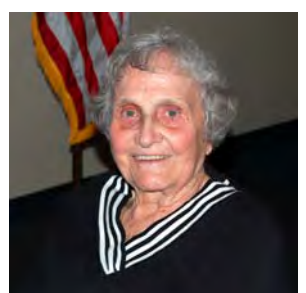
Treasurer Pete Dawson



H. B. Love



Newsletter Editor Jim Patton



Rose Munchbach

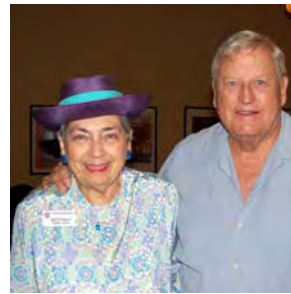




Glen and Katie Crabb



Barb and Larry Fernald



Betty and Paul Finley



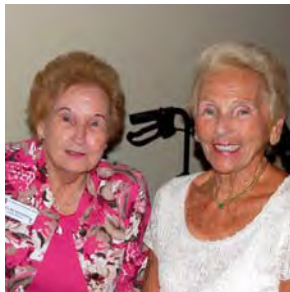
Ed and Chris Lillich



Ginni and Bill Eichholz



Bobbie Walters



Pauline Edwards and Evey Hamilton



New Master At Arms Peter Gunderson



Current President Larry Fernald and Past President Terry Carr



Harry Greenwald with Katie and Glen Crabb

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



Attendees



Legislature from Page 5

“There is some silver lining to this news. The HASC-P rejected the MCRMC’s recommendation to stop contributions after 20 years of service. Even so, we are very concerned that this proposal will not retain the skilled, mid-grade NCOs and officers our country needs in the long-run,” said MOAA Director of Government Relations Col. Mike Hayden, USAF (Ret).

Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain (R-Ariz.) looks poised to accept the House’s version of retirement reform. “We’ve been working closely” with the House, McCain said. “We’re basing our plan on the recommendations of the commission and we feel comfortable with that.”

This is just the beginning of the FY 2016 defense bill legislative process. MOAA will continue to work with Congress as the process moves to the Senate.

Stripe from Page 4

The adoption of the racing stripe initially met resistance from the Coast Guard’s service culture, however, during the late 1960s and early 1970s, the symbol appeared on every maritime and aviation asset in the service. By 1975, the Coast Guard’s sail training ship *Eagle* was the last service asset not sporting the emblem. Traditionalists had long held that the racing stripe would destroy her classic lines, but with preparations underway for Operation Sail 1976 to celebrate the nation’s bicentennial and *Eagle* to serve as the host ship, Coast Guard leadership saw an opportunity to present the service’s brand identity to the world. By the opening of OpSail ’76, the racing stripe was applied to *Eagle*’s hull, and the emblem received the public stamp of approval when CBS news anchor, veteran sailor and OpSail TV commentator Walter Cronkite singled out *Eagle* and her racing stripe logo with approving remarks.

Help Our Troops (HOT)

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

Army’s Twilight Tattoo in DC

Twilight Tattoo is a show that provides a glimpse into American history through performances by the U.S. Army Blues, vocalists from the U.S. Army Band Downrange and U.S. Army Band Voices, the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, and the U.S. Army Drill Team. The 2015 Twilight Tattoo will begin April 29 and run through August 19, every Wednesday with the exception of July 1. The show will be performed on Joint Base Myer- Henderson Hall’s Summerall Field near Arlington, Va. from April through June, and on Whipple Field from July through August. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit the Twilight Tattoo website at www.twilight.mdw.army.mil.

2015 Scholarship Fund Donors (Includes donations to National MOAA)

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

••GOLD –

Bartlett, Bill CAPT
Carr, Paulette Mrs.
Carr, Terry LTC
Edwards, Pauline Mrs.
Fernald, Larry Lt Col
Flint, John Col
Isley, Anne Mrs
Landers, Joan Mrs.
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.

Member donations ONLY:
\$2,385 as of 4/25/2015

••SILVER –

Augustine, June Lt Col
Bolin, Bill CDR
Hetherington, Chuck Col
Lewis, Bill Lt Col
Phillips, Bettye Mrs.
Sims, Bob Maj

••BRONZE –

Edwards, Richard CAPT
Eichholz, Bill LTC
Gioe, Shirley Mrs.
Hermann, Peter Col
Kirkland, Doug CDR
Quattromani, Tony LTC
Reed, Bob CDR
Sartorio, Sal Maj
Schlager, Fred CWO4
Tondreau, Herb CWO4
Warren, David LTC

2015 Help Our Troops 2015 Heaven on Earth Donors

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

••GOLD –

Augustine, June Lt Col
Bartlett, Bill CAPT
Bolin, Bill CDR
Carr, Paulette Mrs.
Carr, Terry LTC
Edwards, Pauline Mrs.
Fernald, Larry Lt Col
Gioe, Shirley Mrs.
Holmes, Lee LTC
Isley, Anne Mrs
Johnson, Mardi Mrs.
Kottich, Chuck COL
Landers, Joan Mrs.
Lofgren, Bill Col
Love, H. B. COL
Milford, John Lt Col
Misuraca, A. J. 1st Lt
Neville, Johnnie Mrs.
Palmer, Stew Col
Patton, Jim CWO4
Patton, Kathi Mrs.

Member donations ONLY:
\$ 2,145 as of 4/25/2015

Peck, Earl Maj Gen
Phillips, Bettye Mrs.
Quattromani, Tony LTC
Schoeppner, John Maj Gen
Sims, Bob Maj
Smith, Violet Mrs.

••SILVER –

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

••BRONZE –

Edwards, Richard CAPT
Hamilton, Rosemary Mrs.
Schlager, Fred CWO4





TAPS

Thankfully, no one.



Welcome Our New Members!

◆ **Ammon, Robert “Bob”, USCG (Ret)**
 13370 82nd Avenue, Seminole, FL 33776,
 727-391-3520

**Every member get a new member
 and get a free lunch!**

Sick List

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

- ◆ **Lt Col John Milford, USAF (Ret)**
- ◆ **Col Mildred “Gene” Butler, USAF Ret)**
- ◆ **CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG (Ret)**

May Birthdays (63 to 91 years)

| Day | LName | FName | Rank | SVC |
|-----|-------------|-------------|--------|---------------|
| 1 | Ammon | Robert | CDR | USCG (Ret) |
| 11 | Bax | Giles | COL | USA (Ret) |
| 07 | Bolin | William | CDR | USNR (Ret) |
| 08 | Carr | Terry | LTC | USA (Ret) |
| 11 | Comeau | Ronald | MAJ | USA (Ret) |
| 22 | Fine | Ellen Marie | Mrs. | AuxMbr-Spouse |
| 1 | Hamilton | Evelyn | Mrs. | AuxMbr-A |
| 23 | Hintze | Claudie | Mrs. | AuxMbr-AF |
| 08 | Landers | Joan | Mrs. | AuxMbr-A |
| 11 | Langston | Gregory | Lt Col | USAF (Ret) |
| 04 | McDonough | Michael | LtCol | USMC (Ret) |
| 03 | Musselwhite | Charlie | CWO4 | USA (Ret) |
| 27 | Myers | Ralph | Lt Col | USAF (Ret) |
| 17 | Pav | Peter | COL | USA (Ret) |
| 31 | Peck | Margaret | Mrs. | AuxMbr-Spouse |
| 10 | Rafferty | John | LCDR | USCG (Ret) |
| 27 | Simmons | Donald | CWO4 | USN (Ret) |
| 02 | Smith | Violet | Mrs. | AuxMbr-A |
| 24 | Warren | Judith | Lt Col | USAF (Ret) |

Financial Report Summary for the Month of March

HOT Fund

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Balance, Beginning of Month | \$ 5,414.51 |
| Donations | \$ 45.00 |
| 50/50 | \$ 42.00 |
| Memorials | \$ 150.00 |
| Expenses | \$ (470.89) |
| HOT Balance, End of Month | \$ 5,180.62 |

Scholarship Fund

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|
| Balance, Beginning of Month | \$ 675.00 |
| Donations | \$ 20.00 |
| Expended | \$ 0.00 |
| Balance, End of Month | \$ 695.00 |

Operating Account

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Balance, Beginning of Month | \$ 6,429.12 |
| Luncheon Income | \$ 665.00 |
| Dues | \$ 20.00 |
| Misc Income | \$ 610.00 |
| Interest Earned | \$ 1.18 |
| Luncheon Expense | \$ (682.75) |
| Supplies | \$ (158.45) |
| Post Office | \$ 0.00 |
| Honraria/donations | \$ 0.00 |
| Other Organizations | \$ (295.00) |
| Memorial to HOT | \$ (150.00) |
| Printing/mailing | \$ (439.99) |
| Newsletter Costs | \$ (408.20) |
| VA/JROTC | \$ 0.00 |
| Balance, End of Month | \$ 5,590.91 |

Doolittle Raiders Donate Medal

Exactly 73 years after the daring Doolittle Raiders’ assault on Tokyo, the last two surviving members presented the group’s Congressional Gold Medal to the National Museum of the United States Air Force on April 18. The medal, the highest civilian honor Congress can give on behalf of the American people, was awarded to the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders on April 15, 2015 by leaders of the House of Representatives and Senate. The group’s medal will join the museum’s diorama that depicts the legendary raid. Museum director, retired Lt. Gen.) Jack Hudson, has pledged the group’s inspirational story “will live on.”

If you wish to donate to one of our funds, please send the check to SPA-MOAA, PO Box 7054, St. Petersburg, FL, 33734 or better yet bring it to the next luncheon.



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MacDill Air Force Base History

MacDill Air Force Base is located seven miles south of Tampa, Florida, on the southwestern tip of the interbay peninsula in Hillsborough County. This area once had been used as a military staging area during the Spanish-American War but did not become a military installation until much later. In 1939, the War Department selected Tampa to receive one of several new military air fields and worked out arrangements for the transfer of the land.

MacDill Field was officially activated on April 16, 1941, and named in honor of U.S. Army aviation pioneer and World War I veteran, Colonel Leslie MacDill. The first primary mission of the base during World War II involved training Airmen to fly and operate bomber aircraft – such as the B-17 “Flying Fortress” or the B-26 “Marauder.” From 1942-45, many thousands of American men passed through MacDill’s gates to train as bomber pilots or crew members and then quickly move on to other military assignments, eventually destined for the deadly fight raging over Europe’s skies. Following the end of hostilities in Europe, MacDill began to train crews of the B-29 “Superfortress” in January 1945, which lasted through 1953.

In January 1948, MacDill Air Force Base became an operational base for Strategic Air Command, and activities focused on training in the bombers of the early Cold War era. However, by 1960, the base faced an uncertain future. The Department of Defense announced it would close most of it by 1962 – due in part to the advent of the “missile age” that de-emphasized the bombers. However, hostilities with Cuba in the early 1960s highlighted the strategic location of the base and led to a reprieve of the planned cutbacks. During this time, MacDill assumed another important role providing support for a prominent unified command, U.S. Strike Command, assigned to the base in 1961.

In 1963, the bombers gave way to the fighters when MacDill became a Tactical Air Command training base. Throughout the Vietnam War and up until the first Gulf War in 1991, Tampa became a home for the F-4 “Phantoms” and later the F-16 “Fighting Falcons.” Between 1979 and 1993 approximately half of all F-16 pilots trained at MacDill.

The 6th Wing (1994 - Present)

In 1991, the era of the fighters at MacDill began to wane. Due to military downsizing, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission required the base to cease all flying operations by 1993. The action effectively transferred more than 100 F-16 fighters to Luke AFB, Arizona. When the last F-16s left the base in 1994, MacDill AFB had no active duty aircraft for the first time.


In 1994, MacDill became home to the 6th Air Base Wing. This new wing had a primary mission of operating the base in support of U.S. Central Command, U.S. Special Operations Command, and a large number of other mission partners and tenant units. However, this mission would grow. In 1994, MacDill played a prominent role in U.S. operations to restore Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and his government after

an attempted military coup. With operations in Haiti highlighting MacDill’s significance in the region, the 1995 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended to retain the airfield under Air Force control. Eventually, this led to MacDill’s new mission in refueling.


In 2008, the base wing experienced more changes as part of a major restructuring by the Air Force. This time, MacDill and the 6th welcomed the Air Force Reserve’s 927th Air Refueling Wing as a joint partner in the aerial refueling mission at MacDill. Currently, these two units – one active duty and the other reserve – work together using the same KC-135 “Stratotankers” to more efficiently carry out the Air Force’s missions. Today at MacDill, the 6th Air Mobility Wing performs aerial refueling, airlift, and contingency response missions for U.S. and allied forces around the world. The wing has sixteen KC-135 “Stratotankers,” three C-37A aircraft, and more than 2,700 personnel assigned. Additionally, the 6th Air Mobility Wing is the host unit of MacDill Air Force Base and provides direct support to U.S. Central Command, U.S. Special Operations Command, and 39 other tenant units.

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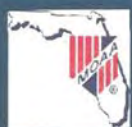
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Monthly Luncheon

Friday
15 May 2015

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

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

Guest Speakers:

Maj Ed Lillich, USA (Ret)

Memorial Service

Maj Ed Lillich, USA (Ret) will be leading our annual Memorial Service.

Ed served in the Army Infantry for 23 years and retired in 1977. Served tours in Korea, Vietnam (two tours) and Germany (two tours) as well as at major posts in the States. He became an Airborne Ranger at Fort Benning,



GA and became a Special Forces officer at Ft. Bragg, NC where he had been the Deputy Chief Of Staff of the John F. Kennedy United States Army Center for Military Assistance. He commanded a Special Forces Company for eighteen months. He has been awarded two Bronze Star medals for meritorious achievement in ground operations against hostile forces; the Air Medal with "V" device; and three Meritorious Service medals. The Vietnamese Government awarded him the Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star for his service as a District Senior Advisor in Chung Tien Province VN.

After retirement he became the business manager of Admiral Farragut Academy and served in that position for twenty years. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education and a Master of Science Degree in Counseling and Guidance: and currently acts as a substitute teacher at this Academy.

He commands the Pinellas County Veterans Council Honor Guard which presides at memorial services for veterans and participates in flag presentations and ceremonies to honor our countries Colors.

Note: All those who still are able to get into their uniforms are urged to wear them. Ed is looking for anyone interested in serving on the MOAA Honor Guard for this luncheon to come no later than 11:00 to be briefed on their duties. If you would like to do this please wear your uniform and bring cover, and white gloves if you have them.

11:45 AM - 1:15 PM, May 15th 2015

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(If no answer please leave message) or

Evelyn Hamilton 727-399-1272

To expedite entry, please have checks prepared before arrival.

For a RIDE call:

Lt Col Larry Fernald 522-6237



May

- 6: Nurses Day
- 8: Military Spouses Day
- 10: Mother's Day
- 16: Armed Forces Day
- 22: National Maritime Day
- 25: Memorial Day

