

# OFFICERS CALL

## ST. PETERSBURG AREA CHAPTER,

Military Officers Association of America  
P.O. Box 7054 St. Petersburg, FL 33734



**VOL. V No. IX ★★★★★ Five Star Chapter : 2000, 2002-06 ★★★★★September 2007**  
**Winner 2006 Print Media; Winner 2003 Print & Electronic Media & Web Site**

### President's Message

CAPT Don Freese, USN (Ret)

As I reported last month Sherry and I were on a Baltic Cruise on the Oceania Cruise Ship, MS Regatta. As a sign of the time we live in, the ship was built in France, the Master was Greek Captain Dimitrios Flokos, with an American wife, 385 crew members from 52 countries serving 684 passengers from 40 countries, sailing to 10 European Countries on a ship licensed by the Marshall Islands to save taxes. Incidentally 66 of the 385 crew serving 694 passengers were CHEFS and I only gained 6 pounds.



Four of the 10 countries we visited were formally behind the "Iron Curtain." All but England and Sweden were occupied during WW II. All that served during the Hot and Cold Wars and their families should be justifiably proud. The Wars are over, the Iron Curtain and Berlin Wall have fallen and prosperity and progress are on the rise everywhere where tyranny reigned during our life time. The NATIONAL BIRD of all these countries should be the "CRANE" as everywhere we went we saw CONSTRUCTION and CARGO CRANES working 24/7.

Gdansk Poland, home of the Solidarity Movement at the Gdansk Shipyard that started the final collapse of Communism in 1981 and St. Petersburg Russia were the most impressive ports since both had been heavily damaged during WW II. Many cities in the West were rebuilt after WW II but these cities are being restored as well as being rebuilt.

Freedom is on the rise. We asked our Russian Guide how many TV stations he received, nineteen without cable, including CNN. No restrictions. Believe it or not I bought a T-Shirt with a picture of "McLennin and the Golden Arches" on the front and "The Party's Over!" on the back.

The alarming thing is that the people we talked to, except for the British, are "tired of hearing about the Global War on Terror." The Tour Guide in Denmark took us by the Naval Base which was basically closed with only two "Museum Ships." He told us the Cold War is over and we have no need for a Navy. The Tour Guide continued we also don't need an or Army or Air Force? Guess he was counting on the Marines!

**President, continued Pg 4**

### Maj Gen V. M. "Rusty" Findley, II, USAF

CENTCOM CCJ-5,

Maj. Gen. Vern M. "Rusty" Findley II is Director, Strategy, Plans and Policy, U.S. Central Command, MacDill AFB. He is responsible for command development of all strategy, plans and policy and is the command focal point for integration of theater strategic activities throughout the USCENTCOM region.



General Findley earned his commission in 1976 as a distinguished graduate of the AFROTC program at Arizona State U. He has held numerous operational positions, to include Commander, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC and Commander, 319<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing, Grand Forks AFB, ND. During Operation Allied Force, he commanded the 92<sup>nd</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing, headquartered in Spain. His unit provided essential refueling support for the air war over Serbia. As Commander of the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, his C-17-equipped unit provided vital support to Operation Enduring Freedom. As the Deputy Chief of Staff, Strategy, Plans and Assessment for Operation Iraqi Freedom from Baghdad.

General Findley has also served on major command, numbered air force and joint staffs. He is a command pilot with more than 3,700 flying hours in the KC-135, T-37, T-38, C-130 and C-17A.



The Czars' Summer Palace, Peterhoff, Russia



## Officers Call

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• Editor – Col Al Neville, USAF ..... 522-5685  
• Reporter/Photos – CWO4 Basil Burrell, USCG ... 821-7365

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Vet Liaison ..... LtCol Fred Edwards, USMC ..... 360-2936  
Visitation ..... LCDR Hazel McGrath, USN ..... 545-3884

AND Life Members Emeritus AND Past Presidents

### Chapter Statistics

Total Membership - 331  
Regular Members - 242  
Auxillary Members - 89

#### Military Services:

Army - 86	USMC - 16
USAF - 78	USCG - 8
Navy - 53	NOAA - 1

7/20/2007

## The Buzz

### CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Col Al Neville

727 522-5685 or nevil45@tampabay.rr.com.

#### • Our Chapter AGAIN wins the Five Star Award:-

For the sixth time and fifth year in succession, our chapter has achieved **Five Star status!!** This award is for "outstanding performance during 2006." We will receive the award at our September 21<sup>st</sup> luncheon. CAPT Bill Monk, USN (Ret), Florida Council of Chapters President will will present the award.

• **Scholarship Fund—our first designated scholar:-**MOAA national awarded the first St. Petersburg Area Chapter scholarship to Dallas McCall from Winter Haven, Florida. Dallas sent our Chapter a very nice "Thank You" note for the \$500 grant and \$4,500 interest free loan that he will receive. Dallas has already started his freshman year in engineering at Georgia Tech. Good luck Dallas!

• **Annual Membership Renewal:-** In October, members will receive an invoice identifying their 2008 dues owed, their personal database information for verification and their current level of support for our Scholarship Fund, HOT program and *Officers Call* Boosters.

• **Fifty fifth anniversary:-** Earl and Margaret Peck celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary during a three-week visit to China. They were married June 14, 1952, in Heidelberg, Germany where Margaret worked for Army intelligence. They moved here in 1985 from Washington, D.C. They have seven children, 20 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.



Earl retired in 1985 after 36 years as a pilot, commander and staff officer. He became the first head of the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs. In 2004, he was elected to the St. Petersburg Senior Hall of Fame.

• **ROWC Luncheons resume October 9<sup>th</sup>:-** The ROWC resumes its monthly meetings Tuesday, 9 October at the Wine Cellar, N. Redington Beach. Jim Rudolph, President of Veterans' Care will be the guest speaker. There also will be a Chinese Auction of military items (anything military related). Husbands and MOAA Chapter members are invited. (See ROWC box on last page for reservation information.) ROWC membership is open to a wife or widow of a retired or active duty uniformed officer with a full privilege military ID or a female retired uniformed officer.

Questions: Chris Lillich, President; 727 546-2246, lillichc@aol.com.

• **"Give Me 10!" Award to Florida Council of Chapters:-** I (Bill Monk) am proud to announce the receipt of a \$250 Check from MOAA Chapter and Council Affairs in recognition of Florida's Award-winning performance in the "Give Me 10!" Program for the quarter ended 30 June 2007. This illustrates the point I've made in past communications that the "Give Me 10!" Program is FREE MONEY for those who are actively recruiting new members.

Although I received the check, the award was won by your efforts. Keep up the good work! Bill Monk, Council President.

• **Another New Life Member:-** Lt Col John Milford USAF (Ret) converted from a MOAA national Annual to Life Member August 4, 2007. Contact Janice Mogan, 727-381-3997, or Don Freese, 727-360-3102 if you are interested converting your MOAA national Membership to Life.

The Buzz, continued Pg 4





# The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States Air Force

Maj Gen Earl G. Peck, USAF (Ret)

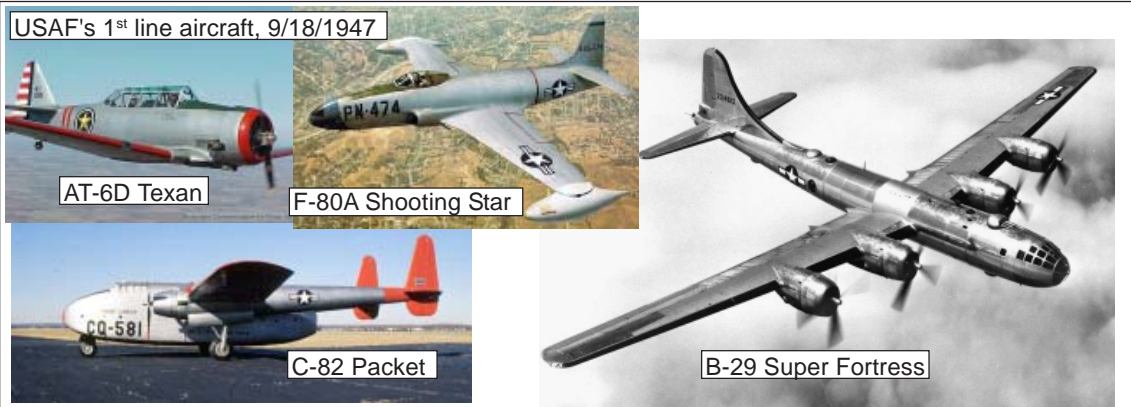
The United States Air Force traces its origin to the establishment of the Aeronautical Division of the Army Signal Corps on August 1, 1907. That inauspicious organization – three people, no airplanes – bore no sign of the incredible development of air power over the following 100 years. Forty years later, after many changes of organizations, titles, missions, and through the grit and dedication of American aviation visionaries such as Billy Mitchell, Carl Spaatz, Curtis LeMay, Jimmy Doolittle, Hap Arnold, et. al., the United States Air Force was created when Harry Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947. Since September 18, 1947, the USAF has continued to grow into an ever more vital instrument of American power in times of peace and in war. This year, as we commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a proud service, we can look back on a phenomenal growth in the capability to be decisive in war and a strong influence on maintaining peace. We can also look forward to challenges now on the horizon and those now unimagined beyond.

America's Air Force was born of America's Army and was forged in fire in World War II. Attempts to separate the two had begun even before the First World War, but were resisted both inside and outside the air arm. There wasn't much money available and creating new administrative structures would be time-consuming and costly. But the rapid development of aviation technology heralded a more significant role for airplanes in war, and the requirement to employ the new aerial weapons with knowledge, skill, determination, and courage grew apace. The evolution of long-range strategic bombers like the B-17 and B-24 made air power employment a specialty that only trained airmen could manage – both in the air and on the ground. It is fair to say that the creation of the independent USAF on September 18, 1947, was the logical result of the creation of a specialty field – strategic, long-range, offensive airpower employment. Strategic bombardment was so markedly beyond the traditional land and naval force capability and thinking that establishment of an independent military service to accomplish that mission was a natural consequence. In fact, it should be noted that the Royal Air Force became an independent service in 1917!

The first great challenge for the newly-minted USAF came with the Soviet blockade of the Allied sectors of occupied Berlin. In concert with the RAF, round-the-clock cargo flights were flown from West Germany to sustain the beleaguered city. The Berlin Airlift was a great success. In testimony to which monu-

ments to the heroic effort are still honored in Frankfurt and Berlin, but the Cold War continued to intensify. As a result, USAF bases sprang up all over the world. My first assignment as a 2nd Looie fighter pilot was to the 36<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Fuerstenfeldbruck AB, Germany, in 1950, flying F-80s and then F-84s. I had so much fun that I became a career officer!

Another consequence was the growth of the Strategic Air Command to deter the Soviets. SAC kept 50% of the bombers (B-47s and B-52s) on nuclear alert around the clock and ultimately 100% of the Titan and Minuteman missiles. I was drafted into SAC (along with a lot of other fighter pilots) in 1958 to fly B-47s and then B-52s. Among the most challenging missions I ever flew were those airborne alert sorties in a B-52 during the Cuban missile crisis: six nuke weapons, 26-27 hours duration, two refuelings of 120,000 pounds of JP-4 each, and a nerve-



racking approach to Wurtsmith AFB in the snow at the end! But Khrushchev blinked!

At the same time the Air Force joined the other services in the relatively low-intensity conflicts in Korea and Vietnam. In Korea we proved that the F-86 (with our guys flying) could more than cope with the MIG-15 (whoever was flying, Chinese?) and that perhaps MacArthur should have been permitted to bomb the bridges over the Yalu River. At least, South Korea was preserved as a thriving democracy. In Vietnam, after many years of interdiction bombing and costly ground campaigns, the issue was still in doubt. In December, 1972, ten days of "Linebacker II" convinced the North Vietnamese to return to the negotiating table, but it all proved to no avail.

After the Vietnam War, the Air Force initiated a massive upgrade campaign, introducing new technologies which would have a significant effect on subsequent conflicts. And then, just as the Soviet Union collapsed, we had to put those new capabilities (stealth, AWACS, precision weaponry, et al) to work in Desert Storm in 1991, smashing Iraqi air defenses, decapitating Saddam's command and control structure, and completely demoralizing his army. Airpower (USAF, Navy, and NATO) proved equally effective against the Bosnian Serbs genocide and again in Operation Allied Force to halt the genocide in Kosovo. In the latter case, Milosovich capitulated to Allied airpower with no threat of a ground intervention. In the second Gulf War, we again destroyed Saddam's armed forces, but we remain in a

USAF, continued Pg 4





### USAF, from Pg 3

struggle over the eventual political settlement.

In one century, the airplane has changed warfighting from the traditional linear surface battles to fluid three-dimensional combat zones where surface units that do not enjoy the protection of a superior air force are never safe from attack – from land, sea, or air forces. We can't be sure how men and their machines will shape warfighting in this new century, but it should be axiomatic that we must not sacrifice strategic capability to pay for short-term tactical requirements. **Keep 'em flying!**

### The Buzz, from Pg 2

• **Sick Call update, Hazel McGrath:-** LTC Evan F. Riley, USA (Ret) is at home recovering nicely from a stroke.

Auxiliary Member Mrs. Jean Bonney passed away 1 August 2007. Contact Hazel or Violet Smith for more information.

• **Brent Gudmundson sees the U.S.A.:-** In late 2006, I (Brent) felt I was missing something in my life; it was homesickness. It was too long since I mingled with my family and military friends. Christmas helped as Connie, the five girls and families gave me a GPS navigation system, travel refridgerator and other travel aides.

In late May, I started west on the 8,500 mile journey. My route was Branson, MO, Salt Lake City, UT, Lodi, CA, La Cross, WI, Hollywood, MD, Springfield, VA and back to St Pete. Thanks to the outstanding military space "A" lodging system, I stayed in ten quality military VOQs each with excellent help and service. The accommodations were every bit as good as fine motel's.

The seven visits were truly special, full of loving moments and wonderful events; beyond my expectations.

• **Neville's Lightning Bolt:-** At 2130, 13 August, the Neville home received a direct lightning hit; about \$5,000 structural damage and \$2,000 electrorinc damage. A few years ago they had installed a Florida Power surge protector. The firemen, elctrician and Florida Power stated that it saved them from a possible fire and more serious damage! The surge portector is only a few dollars a month and well worth it!

• **ID Renewals:-** As of 1August 2007, The Naval Training Center (next to the Clearwater Coast Guard Air Station) will no longer issue military ID cards.

• **For airpower buffs:-** What was the fastest World War II piston engined aircraft–Mach .83 at 28,500 feet?

(See how close you came; bottom page 9.)

• **EDITOR'S NOTE:-** Proposed items for The Buzz should be of general interest to our membership. For examples, see The Buzz in recent issues.

Please note that *Officers Call* is a newsletter all contents of which should be clear and concise. All items submitted for inclusion in *Officers Call* are subject to editing for brevity and clarity.

### President, from Pg 1

So once again, the free world has disarmed and largely ignores the threat of International Terrorism. Europeans are quick to point out that the Communists and the Bolsheviks did this damage, the Nazis did that damage; the Allies liberated them.

Let's pray it does not happen again because this time there may be nothing left. This time our military is alert to the threat and is fighting to win the war; a war that most of the world does not think has started. Our military and that of our Allies is all that stands between freedom and terrorism.

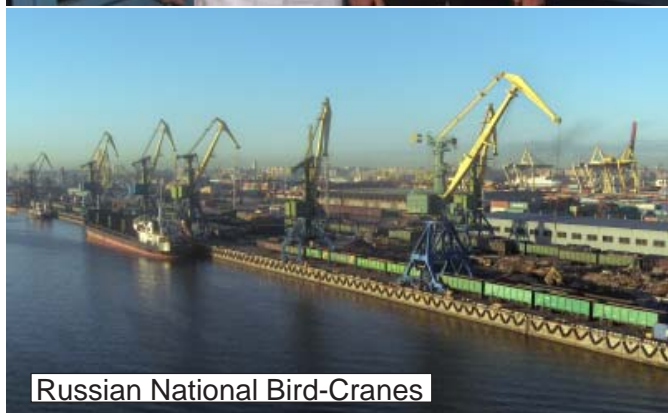
Let's pray that future tourist do not hear "Islamic Fascist" destroyed this and "Terrorist" destroyed that! But if tourists do hear that, they will hear again that "the Allies liberated us."

God Bless Military Men and Women and their families everywhere fighting the Global War on Terror. Never forget 9/11!

**Don Freese, President**



Cruise ship Captain & Don



Russian National Bird-Cranes



Canal, Brugges, Belgium





## A Cruise To Remember

Paul Finley, LCDR USN (Ret)

It's the middle of August 1947. The Battleship USS Missouri, having left her home port Norfolk Virginia, is sailing south off the east coast of the United States destination not announced until at 0900 a voice came over the loud speaker: "Attention all hands! This is your Captain speaking. It is an honor to inform you that we are bound for Rio de Janeiro Brazil. President Truman is attending an international conference there. Our orders are to bring him and his family back home to Norfolk at the conclusion of the conference. I ask each of you to dedicate yourself to the successful completion of this mission. Thank you! Captain Dennison."

Rio is a beautiful city in a spectacular setting. As we entered the harbor we sailed past Sugar Loaf Mountain. Ahead, looming over the city is one of the seven wonders of the world: Christ of the Andes a 257 foot statue of Jesus atop Mount Corcovado. We dropped anchor in the bay at 1046 Friday 29 August.

President Harry Truman arrived in Rio the following Monday 31 August. He hosted a diplomatic reception aboard the next day for several hundred guests. Refreshments, including Champagne and Russian Caviar were served in the Officers Dining room (Wardroom). That was the only official function aboard while we were there, but we had a steady stream of guests-everybody wanted to see the famous USS Missouri aboard which WWII officially ended.

President Truman and his family, Bess and Margaret, came aboard late Sunday morning 7 September and we sailed past Sugar Loaf Mountain to A 21 gun salute at 1300. The Presidents party included 4 reporters and some top government officials including Secretary of State George C. Marshall. The President occupied the Admiral's stateroom while Bess and Margaret were assigned to the Chief-of-staff's stateroom. No one in the party were assigned to the fo'castle! The Trumans made themselves right at home in the floating Whitehouse. Every morning before breakfast President Truman assembled reporters and officials in formation on the fantail (deck at stern of ship) and led them in calisthenics. Everyone wore a white T-shirt with "Harry's Athletic Club" stenciled on it. The President loved to climb to the top of the mast and scan the ocean with a large pair of binoculars.

Bess and Margaret were fairly lonely figures as they were the only ladies aboard. This was before ERA and women's lib. There were four of us pilots aboard but we had no flying duties on this trip. We assigned ourselves the duty of keeping the ladies company. Margaret especially enjoyed the company and played the grand piano in the wardroom and sang for us.

Remember the incident where a reporter criticized Margaret's musical skills and incurred the Presidents wrath?

The most exciting events on the return voyage to Norfolk was when we crossed the equator. Neptunas Rex, the ruler of the Raging Main, having been promised the opportunity to initiate the number one polywog of the United States on the return voy-



age had graciously agreed to let us pass through his domain unmolested on our journey south. Accordingly, on our way north we had to honor the promise with proper ceremonies and the initiation of all the polywogs by the Court of Neptunis Rex and his emissary Paul Jones. For the uninitiated, a polywog is anyone who has not crossed the equator by ship and has not been initiated. Travel by air does not count. Those who have been initiated, even Marines, are known as Shellbacks. The Shellbacks assist his Majesty Neptunis Rex in the ceremony. The polywogs on this cruise have been accused of the Heinous crime of hiding female polywogs on board. "Woe to this collection of lounge lizards, sea lawyers and plow deserters. They shall be dealt with swiftly and summarily." The poor polywogs were made to run through "Shillelagh Alley" a double line of Shellbacks wielding three-foot long flexible clubs. Then were dumped in rancid stinking water and made to suffer other humiliations deserved by such sorry creatures. President Truman willingly went through the initiation though it must be admitted that some mercy was shown given his high status. Bess and Margaret were dealt with mercifully by his Majesty Neptunis Rex. The ceremony lasted for two and one half hours. The rest of the trip home was routine.

We docked at our pier at Norfolk Naval Station on Friday 19 September. The Presidential Yacht POTOMAC came alongside and the President's party disembarked the USS Missouri and returned to Washington after an overnight cruise on the Potomac River.





## Luncheon Meeting; 17 August 2007

Reported by **Basil Burrell**

**Attended – 60: Members– 29, AuxMbrs-10; Wives– 16, Guests– 3, Walkins–2, (Cancel-0, No shows–1)**

President Don Freese, who is back from his travels in the northern Europe area and to prove it wore a Russian enlisted mans baseball cap, called the meeting to order at 1145 hours. He called on Maj Gen



Earl Peck to deliver the invocation. Don then led us in the pledge of allegiance to our flag and nation.

Don noted that we have 60 persons in attendance today. This is a very good crowd for the hot days of August. I think our speaker, CAPT Shelly Marshall USN(Ret) from MOAA in Washington, had a lot to do with our great attendance. And we were not disappointed. CAPT Marshall is MOAA's Scholarship Fund Development Officer and she knows her business.

Don announced that Jean O'Toole, wife of CAPT Charles O'Toole USN(Ret) has passed away. He extends the condolences of the Chapter to Charles and the family of Jean.

One of our members here today was Hazel Murphy formerly of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. Hazel is the Cover Girl on a book about nurses in WWII. The title of the book is "Answering The Call: Nurses of Post 122." Hazel is a beautiful lady.

Don noted that attendance at the 6 August Board Meeting was exceptionally good. Twenty two members attended. In case you aren't aware, you don't have to be a board member to attend.

The Door prize was drawn and then three equity distribution prizes were drawn. Some confusion came about with two people holding the same number but it was resolved. Hazel McGrath was one of the winners.

The Panama Canal Cruise was the consensus choice for the proposed cruise next year. National MOAA has a 7 day cruise in November 2007 and the price is right: about \$800.00 per person. The best cabins are taken already.

Violet Smith spoke about the Survivor's Check List book that she made available last year. Violet is co-chair of the MOAA Members Advisory Committee.

Carolyn Shields read a letter to Maggie Eynatten in appreciation of her work on HOT. Carolyn asked for volunteers to address labels and take boxes to the Post Office. The St Petersberg Bridge Club, at the urging of Don Freese, has donated over \$800.00 to HOT this year.

Marie Lorence, our Historian, has many boxes of historical records that she would appreciate having someone examine.

There is to be a Raffle in November of military memorabilia. Don's Russian hat will be among the stuff. Incidentally, Don got an enlisted hat because they didn't have an officer's cap large enough for his head. I won't say any more about the subject.

CAPT Marshall gave us an excellent presentation about MOAA's Scholarship program. I know that I learned to appreciate how much MOAA does for children of military parents, both officer and enlisted.

At 1305 Don again called on MajGen Peck to deliver the benediction and adjourned the meeting. **Basil**



Our speaker, MOAA's CAPT Shelley Marshall, Stew Palmer & Don Freese sitting



Ed Spears & his son, Tom



Don Freese & Charles O'Toole





Violet Smith &amp; Anita Harrow



Sherry Freese &amp; Pauline Edwards



Ron &amp; Shirley Wildes

**2007 Officers Call BOOSTER Donors****Gold** (\$50 & more); **Silver** (\$25-49); **Bronze** (\$1-24)**••Gold – \$515**

Freese, Donald CAPT  
Lofgren, Bill Col  
Mogan, Janice LTCS  
Neville, Al Col  
Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
Sims, Bob Maj

**••SILVER – \$255**

Bischof, Henny Mrs.  
Burrell, Basil CWO4  
Gudmundson, Brent LTC  
Harrison, Christa Mrs.  
Isley, Ann, Mrs.  
Lorence, Marie LTC  
Nelson, Landy COL  
Nolan, Richard Col  
Palmer, Stew Col

Shields, Roger COL  
Sipole, Eva Mrs.

**••BRONZE – \$110**

Crook, Merideth, Mrs.  
Dawson, Peter Maj  
Eisenhart, Bill Col  
Eynatten, Bob CAPT  
Harrow, Tom CAPT.  
Lanier, Laurie Maj  
Smith, Violet Mrs.

**\$880 as of 8/25/07****September Birthdays****(57 to 98 years)**

<b>Day</b>	<b>L Name</b>	<b>F Name</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>SVC</b>
07	Blaskovitz, Joseph		CWO4	USA (Ret)
25	Briggs, David		COL	USA (Ret)
02	Burrell, Basil		CWO4	USCG (Ret)
27	Crook, Meredith		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
21	DeArment, Harold		COL	USA (Ret)
29	Fisher, Wayne		CWO	USCG (Ret)
22	Ford, Jean		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
08	Fowler, Wilma		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
21	Fox, Marjorie		Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
08	Hintze, Carl		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
29	Hoffman, Elizabeth		Capt	USAF (Frm)
24	Houser, Richard		MAJ	USA (Ret)
19	Lanier, Laurie		Maj	USAF (Ret)
01	Layton, Thomas		CAPT	USN (Ret)
25	Love, Heilbron		COL	USA (Ret)
20	Marine, Lois		Mrs.	AuxMbr
30	May, Harold		Lt Col	USAF (Ret)
04	Misuraca, Angelo		1Lt	USAF (Ret)
13	Mogan, Janice		LTC	USA (Ret)
17	Morgan, William		LCDR	USN (Ret)
22	Phillips, Helen,		Mrs.	AuxMbr-AF
29	Polk, Clifford,		Maj	USAF (Ret)
05	Riley, Evan		LTC	USA (Ret)
11	Robertson, George		Col	USAF (Ret)
13	Rutledge, Virginia		Mrs.	AuxMbr-MC
06	Shepard, Walter		COL	USA (Ret)
06	Smith, Paul		BG	USA (Ret)
02	Stickney, Maurice		LT	USN (Ret)
18	Sumpter, Martha		Mrs.	AuxMbr-A
26	Warner, Nita Bob		LtCol	USMC (Ret)
27	Williams, Frances		Mrs.	AuxMbr-N
10	Workman, Virginia		Mrs.	AuxMbr-N

**2007 Scholarship Fund Donors**  
(Includes donations to National MOAA)**Gold** (\$100 & more); **Silver** (\$50-99); **Bronze** (\$1-49)**••GOLD – \$1,900**

Arnim, Rosemary Mrs.  
Barton, Ann Mrs.  
Edwards, Fred LtCol  
Eynatten, Bob CAPT  
Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
Freese, Donald CAPT  
Gudmundson, Brent LTC  
Harrow, Tom CAPT.  
Lofgren, Bill Col  
Lorence, Marie LTC  
Nelson, Landy COL  
Neville, Al Col  
Palmer, Samuel Col  
Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
Smith, Violet Mrs.

Foutz, Delores Mrs.  
Love, HB COL  
Mogan, Janice LTC  
Nolan, Richard Col  
Shields, Roger COL

**••BRONZE – \$140**

Crook, Merideth, Mrs.  
Dawson, Pete Maj  
Eisenhart, Bill Col  
Roberson, Hal Col  
Vision, Michael CDR

**••SILVER – \$380**

Bischof, Henny Mrs.  
Burrell, Basil CWO4  
Finley, Paul LCDR

**\$2,420 as of 8/22/07**  
**Goal 2007 - \$5,000**



## Executive Committee Meeting St Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA; 6 August 2007

Reported by **D. Kay Benson, AuxMbr-AF**

The meeting was called to order by President Don Freese, at 11:30. Don said the Invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Twenty (22) members were in attendance: D.Kay Benson, Basil Burrell, Pete Dawson, Fred Edwards, Bob Eynatten, Larry Fernald, Paul Finley, Don Freese, Gary Gilchrist, Dick Koch, Ed Lillich, Marie Lorence, H.B. Love, Hazel McGrath, Ron Merritt, Janice Mogan, AL Neville, Stew Palmer, Earl Peck, Carolyn Shields, Roger Shields, and Violet Smith.



Minutes of July 9, 2007 were approved as printed in the Officers' Call. Basil was thanked by D.Kay.

President Report: Panama Canal was the destination of choice from the MOAA Vacation Group Cruise Survey. We have 332 members with 17 new members. New member goal this year is 40. We have 8, included 1 New Life, for Give Me Ten with 3 Non members of MOAA National. Meeting attendance for 2007 average is 67.17, 2006 was 72.55 with 2005 58.71.

Fred announced "MOAA Deploys to Florida," which includes a Professional Symposium, a Congressional Breakfast, the Annual Meeting, the Chairman's Luncheon, and Seminars by MOAA Staff Experts. All to be held in Tampa Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. Full detailed agenda will appear in the Officers' Call. Carolyn requested a HOTS table at the meeting. Don will make the request. MOAA Vacations will be offering a Thanksgiving Cruise Nov. 18 – 25<sup>th</sup>. See [www.MOAA.org](http://www.MOAA.org) or MOAA Magazine for details.

Larry reported that the August speaker will be CAPT Shelley Marshall. The September meeting is the 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Air Force. Earl will present the program. October will be Col Michael T. Culhane, USAF, MSC. November will be CAPT Dave Olson USN (Ret). December will be our Holiday Canteen with Frank Sinatra and Toys for TOTS.

Janice thanked all who helped with the July meeting. She obtained an OC ad from the July speaker. She made a motion to hold another raffle in November. We will be raffling Military Memorabilia. Ed seconded the motion and it carried. She led the discussion on asking political candidates to speak at our meetings. Conclusion: Not a good idea. She will be on vacation and will miss both meetings in September. She closed her report by reading articles from "Humor in Uniform".

Treasurer's report was approved as e-mailed by Pete. Al discussed the membership dues date change. It is on page 6 of our directory, and it will be posted in the OC. He requested that we contribute to The Buzz. He will include in September OC a detailed agenda for the MOAA National meeting Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>. Stew suggested that donations be included with the dues letter. Don will include that information in his letter.

## MOAA Deploys to Tampa

Fred Edwards, LtCol USMC (Ret)

Mark November 16 and 17 on your calendars for MOAA's 2007 annual meeting that takes place in Tampa. The location is the InterContinental Tampa Hotel at 4860 W. Kennedy Blvd. The theme is "MOAA Deploys to Tampa." Here's the way it stacks up.



On Friday, Nov. 16, from 1 to 3 p.m., MOAA will present the second of its annual series of professional symposiums. The topic this year is "The Role of the U.S. Military in Homeland Defense, Disaster Preparedness, and Response." Join esteemed experts Adm. Thad W. Allen, commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; Lt. Gen. H Steven Blum, chief, National Guard Bureau; and Gen. Victor E. Renuart Jr., commander, NORTHCOM, to discuss this timely topic. There is no charge for MOAA members and spouses.

Saturday morning, Nov. 17, kicks off with a Congressional breakfast at the hotel. MOAA is inviting both Senators, along with six Representatives whose districts are near Tampa, and Florida Governor Charlie Crist. Following breakfast, the annual meeting begins at 9:30, featuring Air Force General Mike Carns, chairman of the board; Navy Vice Admiral Norb Ryan, MOAA president, and key staff directors who will provide reports about MOAA's initiatives and goals.

The chairman's luncheon follows the annual meeting. The keynote speaker is scheduled to be Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates. And at 2 p.m. MOAA's staff experts will provide free information-packed seminars about legislation, military benefits, career guidance, and financial planning.

The entire Saturday schedule comes at a charge of only \$15 per person attending. You can register online in August at [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), and also can view a flier about the meeting in .pdf format. The August issue of Military Officer contains more registration information.

If you wish a room at the hotel, call (800) 866-7177. The special MOAA room rate is \$119.00 per night.

Carolyn reported that HOTS needs boxed cookies, gum and trail mix. She requested 3 free ¼ page ads for those corporations who donate regularly as a Thank You. She writes thank you notes but felt this would mean more to them. Discussion was held – space is very limited. Conclusion: OC will list the corporate donors. Gary suggested that members thank our corporate donors when visiting them.

Ed made a motion that our chapter observes the new rule on saluting the flag when out of uniform. Each branch has different rules. It was suggested that an OC article will tell of our support of the new rule. After much discussion, motion was withdrawn. Ed will prepare a draft motion which he will staff with Earl and Fred for possible presentation at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

**Minutes, continued next page**



## HOT – Help Our Troops

Mrs. Carolyn Shields,  
HOT Committee Chairperson

The Help Our Troops project continues to grow with more people who are passionate about sending goodies to our adopted unit in Afghanistan. Their cash donations also provide the means to pay the shipping postage which currently is \$8.90 per flat-rate box via priority mail.



To date, 350 boxes have been packed and shipped. I'll continue to pack the boxes but I need HELP with the paper work. It would be a great help for someone to write my name and address on the labels and custom forms that are available at the Post Office or from me. If several people volunteered to do this it would expedite our shipping process. Also needed is help in obtaining the boxes, labels and forms from the Post Officer. I'll provide the tape.

This is your project and your help is needed. We note that Halloween is fast approaching and your gift of Halloween candy or cookies would be much appreciated. Nuts are always welcome!

– Carolyn Shields

### Letter from Afghanistan:-

Carolyn-

My name is LTC Bill Ostlund. I command 2nd Battalion (Airborne) of 503rd Infantry-The ROCK-Kunar Province, Afghanistan.

Recently I walked by the coffee pot in our tactical operations center to find a box of hard candy and your card from HOT-(Help Our Troops). I want to tell you "Thank you and your support is sincerely appreciated.

Very respectfully,

Bill Ostlund

### 2007 Help Our Troops Donors

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

**••GOLD – \$1,975**

Barton, Ann Mrs.  
Burrell, Basil CWO4  
Cowardin, Margaret Mrs.  
Dawson, Peter Maj  
Diedo, Ed LTC  
Eynatten, Bob CAPT  
Fernald, Larry Lt Col  
Freese, Donald CAPT  
Gudmundson, Brent LTC  
Isley, Anne Mrs.  
Jessup, John COL  
Kottich, Charles COL  
Lofgren, Bill Col  
Lorence, Marie LTC  
Misuraca, Angelo, 1LT  
Mogan, Janice LTC  
Neville, Al Col  
Palmer, Samuel Col  
Peck, Earl Maj Gen  
Shields, Roger COL  
Sims, Bob, Maj  
Smith, Violet Mrs.

Eisenhart, Bill Col  
Harrison, Christa Mrs.  
Harrow, Tom CAPT  
Hodgen, Robert CWO4  
Nelson, Landy COL  
Nolan, Richard Col  
Shine, Jack Col

**••BRONZE – \$165**

Christy, Marge Mrs.  
Couture, Bert COL  
Green, Richard CWO  
Lanier, Laurie Maj  
McGrath, Hazel LCDR  
Merritt, Ron COL  
Secor, Madeline Mrs.  
Shine, John Col  
Tondreau, Herb CWO4

**•• SILVER – \$265**

Bischof, Henny Mrs.

**\$2,405 as of 8/25/07**

### Minutes, continued from previous page

Hazel needs a deputy and more volunteer help. Pete requested for Hazel \$50 for students and another \$50 to put our name in their book. This has been something we have done annually. Larry made the motion, Earl seconded. It carried.

Vi reported that the drop off box for NEW Prescriptions is up and running at the Satellite Pharmacy at MacDill. Forms are available, please read directions. Any questions call 813-828-2226. New changes are to take place in the Pharmacy system – be alert to these changes.

MOAA Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee working with MOAA Staff has completed a new publication called: "Survivor's Checklist", intended for surviving spouses to pass on to their family members when the surviving spouse dies. She requested a few minutes at the luncheon to address surviving spouses and offer them this booklet. She gave a copy to D.Kay. MOAA pins are still available for \$5.

MOAA national is hosting a Job Fair in Tampa in November prior to November national Annual meeting.

Bob Eynatten will be on vacation in September. Pete Dawson will fill in for Bob for September meeting reservations.

At 1310 Don said the Benediction and the meeting was adjourned. **D. Kay Benson**, Secretary

## WALGREENS

10121 Seminole Blvd  
Seminole, Florida

A special thank you to:

Mr Darrell Faust, Manager  
Mrs Barbara Barlow  
Ms Judith Cresto

For their participation in and support of

**Help Our Troops (HOT)**

**From page 2:-** A P-47M of the 56<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, ETO, with the Pratt & Whitney, R-2800-57C



Double Wasp (2,800hp, +700hp over standard P-47D)





## July 2007

### Income:

Dues	\$50.00
Boosters	\$100.00
Luncheon	\$550.00
Ads	\$0.00
Misc income	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Total income:</b>	<b>\$700.00</b>

### Expenses:

Banquet Masters	\$530.00
Newsletter printing	\$303.44
Supplies	\$0.00
Post Office	\$0.00
VA/JROTC	\$0.00
Other organizations	\$0.00
Nonrecurring	\$0.00
Memorials to Sch Fund	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Total expenses:</b>	<b>\$833.44</b>

Operations cash flow: (\$133.44)

### Scholarship Fund

July 1 balance	\$1,826.00
Donations	\$100.00
Memorials	\$0.00
Expended	<u>\$0.00</u>
July 31 balance	\$1,926.00

### HOT

July 1 balance	\$1,962.31
Donations	\$275.00
50/50	\$44.00
Expended	<u>\$927.93</u>
July 31 balance	\$1,353.38

Operating funds balance \$1,488.94

Pete Dawson, Major (Retired) USAF  
Treasurer



# TAPS

Mrs. **Jean Bonney**, Auxiliary Member; 8/1/07  
Page 18, 2007 Directory

## Sick List

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

- \* **CDR Alda P. Haley**, USNR (Ret)  
Page 27, 2007 Directory
- \* **1Lt Robert L. Alvarez**, USMC (Ret)  
Page 15, 2007 Directory
- \* **LTC Richard H. Natzke**, USA (Ret)  
Page 36, 2006 Directory
- \* **Mrs. June Simon**, Auxiliary Member - A  
(Contact Violet Smith, 727 595-5543)
- \* **Mrs. Jeanne Hawkins**, Auxiliary Member - AF  
Page 28, 2007 Directory
- \* **LtCol Russell E. Blagg**, USMC (Ret)  
Page 17, 2006 Directory



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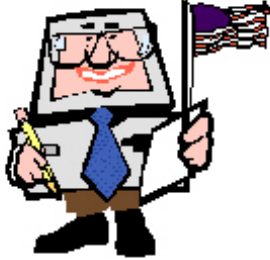
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March 2007

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January 2006

### LUNCHEON MEETING

**11:00 AM - 1:30 PM, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

• **Reservations by Wednesday September 19<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Each reservation \$11:**

Chicken Marsala: \_\_\_\_\_.

Tillapia Piccata: \_\_\_\_\_.

**\*\*\* CLIP and MAIL, with check to SPAMOOA,**

**to=> Maj Pete Dawson**  
**959 Eden Isle Dr., NE**  
**St Petersburg, FL 33704**

**For late reservations &/or a RIDE,  
 call either:**

**Maj Pete Dawson 894-3761**

or

**CAPT Don Freese 360-3102**



**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.

**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.

## CALENDAR

**September 21<sup>st</sup>, Friday, 11:00** Maj Gen "Rusty"  
Findley, J-5, CENTCOM, MacDill AFB. Also presen-  
tation of Five Star award by CAPT Bill Monk, USN  
(Ret)

**October 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 11:00** Col Michael Culhane,  
Commander, 6th Medical Group, MacDill AFB

**November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 11:00** CAPT Dave Olson,  
USN, SCUBANAUTS

**December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 11:00** HOLIDAY CAN-  
TEEN with Don Juceam as Frank Sinatra

**January 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 5:00 PM** Installation Banquet,  
Treasure Island Tennis and Yacht Club. Speaker  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy Lynda Davis

**\*\* Need a ride to lunch?**

**Call: Maj Pete Dawson, 894-3761**

**September 10<sup>th</sup> SECOND Monday**

**October 1<sup>st</sup> Monday**

**November 5<sup>th</sup> Monday**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday**

**January 7<sup>th</sup> Monday**

**February 4<sup>th</sup> Monday**

## ROWC

- **END of SUMMER RECESS**-Tuesday, 9 October  
**Luncheon** – (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday) 11:30, lunch 12:30
- Reservations: LTC Rose Munchbach 397-4146
- Membership: Martha Willis 579-4116.

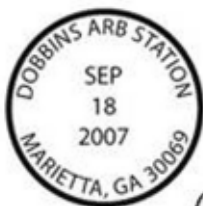
- 
- **Bridge** – (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month) 10:00 AM  
Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park.
  - Reservations: Evelyn Hamilton 399-1272, or  
Margaret Peck 525-1688

The St. Petersburg Area Chapter, MOAA  
P.O. Box 7054  
St. Petersburg, FL 33734

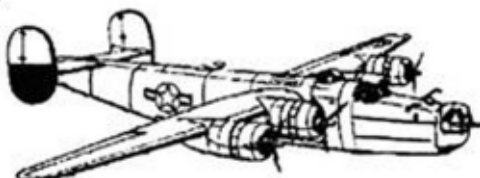


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