

# THE SARASOTA BREEZE



**THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF SARASOTA, INC.**

An Affiliate of The Military Officers Association of America-MOAA and The Florida Council of Chapters

MOAA 4-Star Chapter 2003 & 2008; 5 Star Chapter 2004-2007, 2009 - 2011;

Vol. XXIII No 2 Best Newsletter 2007& 2010; 1st Runner Up 2008; 2nd Runner Up 2009

Feb. 2012

## JANUARY PROGRAM: SARASOTA OPERA SINGERS

by Linda Gould

Culture and the Arts - aren't we lucky to live in a city that has an abundance of these! Our January luncheon held on Friday, 20 January, provided us a showcase of young talent from our local opera. MOAS members, spouses and guests enjoyed listening to seven arias beautifully performed by Mr. Tony Cho, the Program and Music Director of the Studio Artists, who accompanied his four singers on the piano. Whether you already were an opera aficionado or this was your first time to listen to opera, the four singers gave tremendous performances and left many in our audience keenly interested in following up to hear more. The performers are from throughout the United States and they very much enjoy coming to Sarasota and participating as Studio Artists during our opera season.

The agenda featured Sarah Asmar, soprano, singing "Je Veux Vivre" from *Romeo et Juliette*; Jeffrey Beuran, bass, who gave us "Piff, Paff" from *Les Huguenots*; a duet by Sarah Asmar and Steven Uliana, tenor, who sang "People Will Say We're in Love", from *Oklahoma*; followed by Dimitrie Lazich, baritone, who sang "None But the Lonely Heart" by Tchaikovsky and in Russian! Dimitrie and Sarah sang the next duet in German, which was "Papageno, Papagena" from *Die Zauberflote*; then Steven Uliana gave us "Quando le sere al placido" by Luisa Miller, and last but definitely not least, another duet, this time featuring Dimitrie and Jeffrey singing "Cheti, cheti" from *Don Pascuale*. Four very talented singers and arias sung in five different languages!

The Sarasota 2011-12 Opera Season started in October with the first of five offerings, Giacomo Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*. Upcoming operas being performed in February and March include Georges Bizet's *Carmen* (Feb 11-March 24), Gaetano Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* (Feb 18-March 23), Giuseppe Verdi's *Otello* (March 3-25) and Samuel Barber's *Vanessa* (March 10-24). For more information, you can go to [www.sarasotaopera.org](http://www.sarasotaopera.org) or call (941) 328-1300.

We would be truly negligent if we did not thank Margarete Wiltshire for coordinating this outstanding event with the Sarasota Opera.



**Rob Holland of  
The Sarasota Opera**

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM: SELBY GARDENS @ MARIE SELBY GARDENS

By Troy Scott

**MOAS is going on a field trip!!!** For our February 17<sup>th</sup> MOAS luncheon, we have a special treat! Our luncheon will be catered by Michael's on East at the **Marie Selby Botanical Gardens Great Room by the Bay**, a 3,600 square-foot room with 60-feet of glass windows facing west for spectacular bay views.

As most of you know, the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens is a world renowned open-air and under-glass museum of thousands of colorful and exotics plants. The Selby Gardens CEO, Tom Buchter, will provide a presentation on the mission of the Selby – *To further the understanding and appreciation of plant life, with emphasis on epiphytes, and to provide enjoyment for all who visit the Gardens.*

After the luncheon and presentation you will be free to roam the Gardens on a self-guided tour (the normal \$17 entry fee to the Gardens is included in the price of the luncheon). Since this is an 'outing' the dress for the luncheon is "Florida Casual."

Please enter the Selby Gardens grounds on **Palm Ave** from Route 41. There will be a sign in the road indicating MOAS luncheon to the right through a wooden gate. The sign will direct you to the parking area. One of our greeters will be there to welcome you.

This is a new adventure for us all, and we look forward to a very enjoyable experience.

### WHAT'S INSIDE.....

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Chapter Officers, Directors & Committees... | 2         |
| President's Message.....                    | 2         |
| Secretary's Corner.....                     | 3         |
| Legislative Update.....                     | 4         |
| Chaplain's Corner .....                     | 5         |
| JROTC .....                                 | 5         |
| YAHOO.....                                  | 6         |
| Academic Olympics & VPA.....                | 7         |
| Support Our Troops.....                     | 7         |
| Membership.....                             | 8         |
| Birthday Photos.....                        | 9,10      |
| Luncheon Photos.....                        | 6,9,10    |
| MOAS Calendar.....                          | Back Page |

Visit the Breeze in color on our website <http://www.sarasotamoaa.com>

**Chapter Officers, Directors and Committees****Board of Directors**

|                          |                     |          |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| President                | John O'Brien        | 907-8891 |
| First Vice President     | Troy Scott          | 379-3023 |
| Second Vice President    | George Tracy        | 907-9865 |
| Treasurer                | Christa Friedlander | 927-0996 |
| Secretary                | Janice Sladzinski   | 228-9301 |
| Director (Scholarships)  | Claire M. Power     | 921-1931 |
| Director (Programs)      | Jim Hesson          | 926-8702 |
| Director (Publicity)     | Alan Forrester      | 504-5759 |
| Immediate Past President | Len Friedlander     | 927-0996 |

**Board Staff**

|                           |                   |          |
|---------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Program Planning          | Jim Hesson        | 926-8702 |
| Membership Database Mgr.  | George Tracy      | 907-9865 |
| Membership Directory Mgr. | Len Friedlander   | 927-0996 |
| Chaplain                  | Charles Caudill   | 751-3810 |
| Legislative Affairs       | Len Friedlander   | 927-0996 |
| Veterans Affairs          | Patricia McLain   | 371-0883 |
| Treasurer Emeritus        | Marty Hertz       | 377-8319 |
| Historian                 | Janice Sladzinski | 228-9301 |
| Awards Board              | Gerald Crawford   | 426-2411 |

**Scholarship & Projects Committee**

|             |                 |          |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| Chairperson | Claire M. Power | 921-1931 |
| Member      | Kay Tracy       | 907-9865 |
| Member      | Carol O'Brien   | 907-8891 |
| Member      | Mike Staley     | 752-4086 |
| Member      | Jean Southworth | 922-5081 |

**Scheduled Events Committee**

|                         |                     |          |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Chair/Reservations      | Elke Scott          | 379-3023 |
| Greeter                 | Troy Scott          | 379-3023 |
| Reception Manager       | Pat McLain          | 371-0883 |
| Asst. Reception Manager | June Moore          | 388-3118 |
| 50-50 Managers          | Christa Friedlander | 927-0996 |
|                         | Mary LaFollette     | 755-9019 |

**Survivor Assistance Services Committee**

|             |                 |          |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| Chairperson | Charles Caudill | 751-3810 |
| Member      | Margaret Platt  | 378-8863 |
| Member      | Lee Kichen      | 355-1227 |

**Auxiliary**

|             |                  |          |
|-------------|------------------|----------|
| Chairperson | Barbara Hamilton | 921-9250 |
|-------------|------------------|----------|

**Social Club YAHOO (Young At Heart Officers Org)**

|                    |                   |  |          |
|--------------------|-------------------|--|----------|
| Manager            | John O'Brien      | <a href="mailto:obrienjc@aol.com">obrienjc@aol.com</a> | 907-8891 |
| MOAS Singles Group | Marguerite Taylor |  | 923-9238 |

**Support Our Troops Program**

|                         |                            |          |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Program Co-Chairpersons | Jim & Joyce Hesson         | 926-8702 |
| Program Co-Chairpersons | Donald and Rita Cunningham | 351-8967 |
| Program Co-Chairpersons | John & Carol O'Brien       | 907-8891 |

**Newsletter Operations, Sarasota Breeze**

|                         |                  |  |          |
|-------------------------|------------------|--|----------|
| Managing Editor         | Len Friedlander  | <a href="mailto:lenfriedlander@verizon.net">lenfriedlander@verizon.net</a> | 927-0996 |
| Editor                  | Patt Staley      | <a href="mailto:staleycp81@yahoo.com">staleycp81@yahoo.com</a>             | 752-4086 |
| Photographer & Compiler | Max Jonah        | <a href="mailto:mjonah@verizon.net">mjonah@verizon.net</a>                 | 504-8147 |
| Photographer            | Terry Teele      | <a href="mailto:terrymaddy@teele.net">terrymaddy@teele.net</a>             | 922-9492 |
| Photo Recorders         | Pat McLain       | <a href="mailto:jandpmclain@earthlink.net">jandpmclain@earthlink.net</a>   | 371-0883 |
|                         | Barbara Hamilton |  | 921-9250 |

The Sarasota Breeze  
Published Monthly by  
The Military Officers Association of Sarasota, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1016, Sarasota, FL 34230-1016

Printed by  
6054 Clark Center Ave,  
Sarasota, FL 34238  
[www.spotlightgraphics.com](http://www.spotlightgraphics.com)

Spotlight  
Graphics

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*John O'Brien*

Please note that the **February 17 MOAS Luncheon and program will be held at Marie Selby Gardens** and catered by Michael's on East. We will have an opportunity to self-tour the gardens after the luncheon, so the dress will be Florida casual.

I realize that this may be a bit repetitious, but we need those of you who have not yet done so to return, as soon as possible, the MOAS annual membership renewals which were mailed to you. This is a significant chapter expense, and that cost comes out of the operating budget we use to support our community programs. So, please return your membership renewal applications ASAP.

Also do not pass by any opportunity to advertise your organization to potential members. We are maintaining our membership numbers despite the negative demographics and slow economy, but we cannot be complacent. The most effective way to maintain our membership numbers is you; it is the face-to-face meetings that bring in loyal members who want to contribute to our organization. Bring them to a luncheon or YAHOO event; get their phone number to George Tracy. If you need membership brochures, call George at 941-907-9865.

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) conducted a training conference at the West Palm Beach Marriott, and we sent George Tracy, our membership chairman, to attend a special training program for Chapter membership chairpersons. MOAA does a great job with these training sessions, and sets aside time in the schedule for Chapters to share their experiences, both successful and "not-so-successful", at recruiting and retaining membership. Our Chapter's YAHOO Program has been recognized by MOAA as being very successful in encouraging both recruiting AND retention. It happens to be fun also. George Tracy has been doing a great job at membership, and will pick up some new ideas to continue our positive membership numbers. I will be attending Chapter Management classes, as we all know I need all the management training I can get -- and I hope to bring home some new ideas as well.

The MOAA training conference is being held in conjunction with the Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) Winter President's Meeting, so also attending from our Chapter was Troy Scott, Len Friedlander and Jon Gordon, who are all on the governing board of the FCOC. The FCOC organization is important for support (training, uniform rules, communications, and mentor support) of all of the state Chapters. A national organization needs this type of governing body to be successful, and the overall MOAA organizational hierarchy has been very successful in supporting our Chapter, veterans and active duty servicemen.





**SECRETARY'S CORNER**

*Janice Sladzinski*

The Board meeting was called to order at 1600 hours on January 3, 2012 at the Meadows Community Center, President John O'Brien presiding.

**ATTENDANCE:** *Board Members Present:* John O'Brien (Pres.), Troy Scott (1 VP), George Tracy (2 VP), Christa Friedlander (Treas), Janice Sladzinski (Sec'y), Jim Hesson (Dir), Alan Forrester (Dir), Len Friedlander (IPP). *Board Members Absent:* Clare Power (Dir) *Committee Members & Visitors Present:* Joyce Hesson

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** John O'Brien and George Tracy will be attending the FCOC Winter President's Meeting and the MOAA Membership Training at West Palm Beach, FL Jan 13,14.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** The minutes from the December 5, 2011 Board Meeting were accepted. 13 sets of Tervis Tumblers to be presented to luncheon speakers have been ordered and will arrive in mid-January.

**BOARD MEETINGS AND LUNCHEONS**

| MONTH    | BOARD MEETINGS | LUNCHEON |
|----------|----------------|----------|
| FEBRUARY | 6              | 17       |
| MARCH    | 5              | 16       |
| APRIL    | 2              | 20       |
| MAY      | 7              | 18       |

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** As of December 31, 2011. The MOAS Operations Account Balance is: \$ 8,710.56  
The Scholarship Fund Account Balance is: \$30,614.44  
Undesignated Scholarship Fund - \$25,023.61  
Taylor & Schmidt Scholarships - \$ 3,000.00  
Support Our Troops - \$ 2,290.83

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Scheduled Events** (*Elke Scott*): The MOAS Winter Gala had 135 attendees. After deducting for the band, the 2 months of Breeze inserts, and the programs, we had a profit of \$107.82

**Newsletter:** (*Len Friedlander*) A two year supply of *The Breeze* shells have been ordered using the current banner.

**Scholarships & Projects** (*Claire Power*) The Schmidt Foundation has made a gift of \$1,500 to the Sarasota Military Officers Scholarship Fund. The scholarship will be named the "**William and Casiana Schmidt Scholarship**," and will be awarded at the May luncheon. Claire will discuss with the Schmidts the possibility of this becoming an annual Foundation gift.

**Publicity:** (*Alan Forrester*) Any information regarding MOAS that is to be made public should be given to Alan and he will handle it with the media. He can also assist with any requests from the media for information on Veterans.

**Programs** (*Jim Hesson*) Jim Hesson is now acting Chair of the Program Committee with Linda Gould and Joyce Hesson as committee members. They are currently planning speakers for the next season. At the March luncheon, Col. Todd Royer, US Army Commander of the 159 Aviation Brigade in Kandahar (which the MOAS SOT supports) will speak briefly. **The February Program will be held at the SELBY GARDENS ACTIVITY CENTER** (catered by MoE)

| PROGRAMS     |                              |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| FEBRUARY '12 | Selby Gardens @ Gardens      |
| MARCH '12    | Dolly Jacobs-Circus Sarasot) |
| APRIL '12    | Booker VPA                   |
| MAY '12      | Scholarships                 |
| JUNE '12     | TBD                          |

**Membership:** (*George Tracy*) Emails were sent to members with valid email addresses. A membership renewal mailer was sent to members without email addresses or who didn't respond to the email. New member recruiting: To recruit new members, letters will be sent to 74 active national MOAA members living in Sarasota. Also will work with Chamber of Commerce to recruit new members.

| MOAS      | 2011 | 2012 |
|-----------|------|------|
| REGULAR   | 32   | 332  |
| AUXILIARY | 96   | 96   |
| ALLIED    | 4    | 4    |
| TOTAL     | 442  | 442  |

**Support Our Troops:** (*John O'Brien*) Received a pledge for \$5,000 from the Church of the Redeemer.

**Sarasota County Veterans Commission:** (*Pat McLain*) Butch Klemeyer (USNA grad) and Scott Auster, are small businessmen who have become part of the nationwide Eagle Forge organization which offers transition programs for Veterans seeking employment. They match veterans with employers and help with their resumes and whatever else they need to make them more employable. They have contacts throughout the country.

Roger & Mitzi Ellis have joined the Bugles Across America organization and Roger will go to any funeral when requested by the family or the cemetery to play Taps while his wife holds the service flag of the deceased person. He can be reached at (917) 697-9449 or [roger.c.ellis@gmail.com](mailto:roger.c.ellis@gmail.com).

Jim Taft, Sarasota National Cemetery Director, said that construction is moving along rapidly especially due to the good weather. Two Chaplains are now part of the cemetery operation.

Rich Rogala – our newly appointed Commission membership chairman is planning to provide associate memberships to businesses and companies interested in veterans affairs.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Len Friedlander will submit the MOAS entry for the 2011 MOAA Communications Awards prior to February 1.

**NEXT MEETING:** The Board adjourned at 1740 hours. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 1600 hours Monday, February 6, 2012, at the Meadows Community Center.

**For MOAS Name Badges contact Gulf Coast Awards @**  
**[www.GULFCOASTAWARDS.COM](http://www.GULFCOASTAWARDS.COM) (941) 921-3366**  
**[steve@jordansgiftsinc.com](mailto:steve@jordansgiftsinc.com)**



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### *Len Friedlander*

One of the things that has become very evident during these past months of congressional and executive branch wrangling is that it is becoming more and more difficult to decipher the issues and the potential impacts of the various political positions on you and me. I have attempted to provide you with some insight into the situation by informing you of pending legislation and regulations, but as most of you are aware---monthly publications, with earlier deadlines, are not the most efficient way to alert you to the activities in DC and for you to voice your opinion by sending a card, letter, or email to your congressman or senator.

I am therefore asking that each of you who are members of national MOAA (and that should be all of you) to sign up for the MOAA Legislative Update emails at <http://www.moaa.org/legislative/>. The update emails will provide you with information each Friday (earlier if the issue is urgent) on critical legislative issues and enable you to contact your congressional representatives in a timely manner. If you are not a national MOAA member, and wish to join, please contact George Tracy at 907-9865 or [gtracy@erols.com](mailto:gtracy@erols.com).

Congress has been on recess for the past month, so nothing has really moved in the DC arena (not much different from when they are in session). One of the first actions expected of the Congress is to act on the extension of the payroll tax cut for the remainder of 2012, and the Medicare/TRICARE "Doc Fix" since the current interim legislation expires in February.

The President will submit his annual budget proposals to Congress in mid-February. On or before this date we should find out exactly what the Pentagon and the Administration will propose to cut \$450 billion in defense spending over the next decade. Based on the SECDEF/CJCS strategic plans for going forward, and subsequent press conferences, pay freezes, manpower cuts, TRICARE fee increases, retirement changes, and more could be included in the proposal.

Still looming over the military (and the retiree/veteran) community is the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline to pass an alternative debt reduction plan in order to avoid the sequestration process that will cut another \$600 billion from defense spending over the next decade

### **Florida Veterans Legislation**

Florida lawmakers are considering multiple bills that affect the state's 1.6 million veterans. Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA) executive director Mike Prendergast is tracking two key omnibus bills: Senate Bill 922, sponsored by Sen. Mike Bennett, and House Bill 977, sponsored by Rep. Bryan Nelson. The senate bill will give student veterans an advantage already extended to student athletes, allowing for early course registration. The reason is that the modern GI Bill has a time certain specified - only 36 months benefits.

Senate Bill 138, aimed at helping military veterans in the criminal justice system, has been included in the SB.922 omnibus bill. It allows counties to establish programs to divert a veteran who is charged with a criminal offense into an appropriate treatment program if they suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury or substance abuse disorders. FDVA is neutral on the bill because the House and Senate versions differ and some judges have concerns.

Another student veterans' bill, SB164, sponsored by Sen. Mike Fasano, waives residency requirements - giving all student veterans in-state tuition rates. Prendergast said estimates show that would cost state colleges and universities more than \$11 million. The tuition waiver was wrapped into one of the omnibus bills, but it could be amended or eliminated. Several student veterans' organizations in Florida are lobbying to get the waiver.

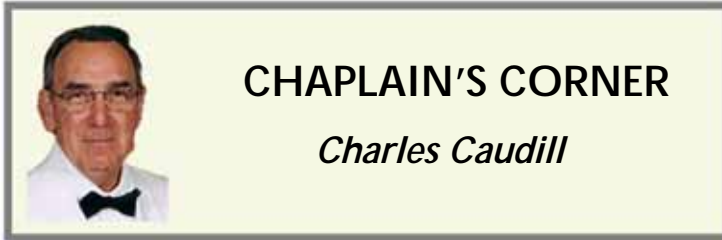
### **VGLI**

Under a new law some veterans covered under the Veterans Group Life Insurance program (VGLI) now have the opportunity to increase their coverage to the current maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program. Currently, 70 percent of the Veterans covered under VGLI are under age 60, have less than \$400,000 of coverage, and will benefit from this law change. Under the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010, Veterans can increase their coverage by \$25,000 at each five-year anniversary date of their policy to the current legislated maximum SGLI coverage, \$400,000. To date, approximately 21 percent of eligible Veterans have taken advantage of this opportunity.

The VGLI program allows newly discharged Veterans to convert their SGLI coverage they had while in the service to a civilian program. Before enactment of this law, Veterans could not have more VGLI than the amount of SGLI they had at the time of separation from service. Now on each five-year anniversary, Veterans can elect to increase their coverage by \$25,000 increments regardless of the Veteran's health. To be eligible to purchase this additional coverage, the Veteran must:

- Have active VGLI coverage,
- Have less than the current legislated maximum coverage of \$400,000,
- Request the additional coverage during the 120-day period prior to each five-year anniversary date
- Be less than 60 years of age on the five-year anniversary date.

Eligible Veterans are notified of this opportunity a week before the start of the 120-day period prior to their anniversary date. While this could be a good opportunity for those veterans who need and use the VA as their life insurance provider, keep in mind that VGLI is term insurance, and premiums increase dramatically as we age.. Check the chart of monthly VGLI premiums from the VA before you decide whether to increase your VGLI coverage @ <http://insurance.va.gov/sglisite/vgli/VGLI%20rates.htm>



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

*Charles Caudill*

### Love Yourself

*"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

February is usually about Valentine's Day or giving love to others. For this article, I have elected to focus on the real meaning of love, and that is: we must first love ourselves before we can adequately love others.

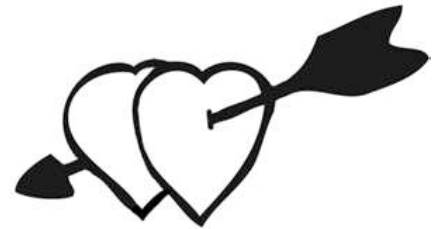
My father used to ask me, "Have you hugged yourself today?" He told me to look into the mirror and say, "I love you." He explained that God made me and loved me and He never made any junk. This was reinforced by my father and mother, who constantly demonstrated their love for me. I do not remember a day of my youth that I did not get a hug followed by the words "I love you." Although, my parents worked, when they came home in the evening, they gave me plenty of attention. My mother insisted on tucking me in bed every night, and even continued when I would come home from college. I would be in bed reading when I would hear her coming down the hall, and I would throw off the covers so she could tuck me in. Their examples of love made it easy for me to serve in the military, giving love and assisting others to love themselves.

When I taught "Marriage and The Family" at the Virginia Military Institute, I would ask the Cadets what they were looking for in a person they wanted to marry. They would describe physical attributes, appropriate education, housekeeping skills, and/or family wealth regarding their future spouses. I would tell them they had overlooked the most important question, which was

"What am I giving?" What we offer is what we usually get. When we love ourselves we discover forgiveness, tenderness, hope, love, inner strength and beauty not only in ourselves, but in others as well.

Have you ever noticed certain movie and TV stars trying to look years younger than they actually are? They have had so much cosmetic surgery that they look grotesque. Most have had numerous personal problems. They have worked on their exteriors instead of their interior spiritual beings.

When I was stationed at Grenier Field in Manchester, New Hampshire, I worked closely with a blind girls' camp sponsored by the Lions' Club. The base officers and airmen built a chapel for the camp and also removed all the tree stumps so the girls would not trip. I will never forget the girls coming up to the troops and touching their faces and telling the troops how handsome they were. They could only feel their faces, but could "see" their spirits. This proved my father was right once again. It is not the outward appearance that really counts; it is our loving spirits.



Take time to look in the mirror and into your eyes, remembering the eyes are the windows of the soul. If we have grown spiritually through the years what a wonderful sight we will see. By the same token, if you want to find out who a person is, look into their eyes and you can see their spirit. We cannot stop our outward manifestation of aging such as wrinkles, baldness, grey hair, or weaker frames, but if we love ourselves more, what fun life can be. The important secret of having quality as we grow older, is to never lose our child. The child in us is more interested in discovery and peace of mind than in our appearance and circumstances. Make Valentine's a day to love yourself too.

## Riverview High School JROTC

by SGM Roger Mitchell

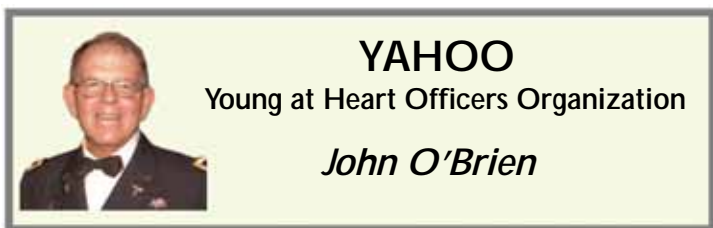
The cadets at Riverview High School JROTC extend their best wishes to the members of the Military Officers Association of Sarasota at the start of 2012! After a great holiday break the corps of cadets is prepared to successfully complete the school year.

The cadets chose Support Our Troops as their Service Learning Project again for school year 2011 - 2012. During the holidays nearly thirty boxes of items collected by the cadets were turned over to MOAS for shipment to our troops. The cadets are continuing their efforts with a goal of collecting a total of sixty boxes for shipment before June. The Support Our Troops Program means a lot to the cadets as several have friends, relatives or parents that have completed tours of duty overseas or are currently serving on active duty.

The cadets would also like to share with the members that former Riverview JROTC Cadet, Meghan Buckley-Cramer, is at West Point and doing well during her first year. Cadet Buckley-Cramer was the recipient of a MOAS scholarship last year. She is representing our community well and we are confident she will become an outstanding officer.

Thank you for your support of the JROTC programs and cadets in Sarasota.

**Editors postscript:** The Military Officers Association of Sarasota would like to thank SGM Mitchell and the Riverview HS JROTC Color Guard for their participation in the military ceremonies at the 2011 Winter Gala. The Color Guard's professional demeanor and military precision were a most welcome sight as we started the Winter Gala activities.



On January 31 we attended an ice hockey game between our own Tampa Bay Lightning and the Washington Capitals at the St. Pete Forum, pictures and in depth interviews in the next Breeze. February will find us gathered at the Cases home, co-hosted with the Atkins, for the traditional Super Bowl Party. March will be a St Patrick's Day party with the Gordons on March 17. Baseball with the Orioles is scheduled for April 1 (No fooling).

### February 5 - Super Bowl LXVI

The Atkins' and Cases welcome all YAHOOs for the annual SUPER BOWL Gathering. Date is 5 Feb at the Case's home at 4640 Center Gate Blvd, Sarasota. Doors open 1700 with kick-off at 1830. Price of admission: an appetizer or desert. Oh, and do BYOB. Mixers and non-alcoholic drinks provided.

This location can be tactically achieved from two major avenues of approach: North from Bee Ridge or from the South via Proctor Road. Center Gate Boulevard is one block west of Cattleman

Road, one block east of Honore Ave.

Case's are on the corner of Aruba and Center Gate. Park along

Aruba cul-de-sac, on Center Gate, Dominica Circle or just south of the house in the wide grassy area on Center Gate. See you all there, Go BROWNS!! RSVP by Jan. 31 to Linda at (Cell) 941-456-1920, (email) [mammabyrd103150@aol.com](mailto:mammabyrd103150@aol.com).



**Maxine Lady and her daughter Janet Lady**

### March 17th -

### Saint Patrick's Day Party

*'Tis time for the wearin' of the green.  
Celebrate St. Patty's on March 17th  
With corned beef and green beer,  
Irish pipe tunes to hear,  
And trivia for minds that are keen.*



Jon and Mary Gordon will continue the YAHOO's tradition of observing St. Patrick's Day after a year of sabbatical due to Jon's new hip. This year St. Patrick's Day will actually fall on a Saturday which makes it much easier to host for a working couple. Mark the date of Saturday, March 17th @1800 and circle the day in green.

The host will provide a traditional Irish Meal of corned beef, cabbage and potatoes along with green beer and soft drinks. The hosts ask that you bring an appetizer, dessert, salad and dressing or a vegetable dish - something Irish, something green or just something good. This year BYO wine if you prefer wine.

Remember to refresh your memories of Irish lore (it's s-h-i-l-l-e-l-a-g-h.). Plan to join our annual "wearing of the green" at 8208 Deerbrook Circle (Turtle Rock sub-division on Palmer Ranch); both gates to the subdivision will have guest lists for entry.

Please RSVP with your acceptance and your dish preference to Mary by March 10th at 923-2302, or email [JMKPL@aol.com](mailto:JMKPL@aol.com)



**Troy Scott (on right) with potential new members Bob & Ann Walker**



Now that we are out of Iraq, all of the units we support are in Afghanistan. We recently ended our nearly 12-month support of the 159th Combat Air Brigade, 101 Airborne Division out of Ft Campbell, KY, commanded by COL Todd Royer. The good news is that they are headed home, and we will be picking up their replacement's support and posting the address on the [www.supportourtroopsmoas.com](http://www.supportourtroopsmoas.com) web site. Col Royer has accepted our standing request for a representative of any unit we support to attend one of our luncheons, and he will be at our March 16<sup>th</sup> Luncheon.

We presently support the 2/9, 3/3 and 2/6 Marines, and our community is continuing to respond to our call.

Recently Carol and I went to Riverview High School and picked up 25 filled SOT boxes from the JROTC, under SGM Roger Mitchell. If that weren't enough, they took 20 more Box Kits to fill.

Doris Pires, the Activities Director at Village Walk in Palmer Ranch is delivering 15 boxes to my house, with the money to ship them, and has asked for 15 additional Box Kits for her residents.

Pete Beisler, of Sarasota VFW Post 3233 called me, interested in his post participating with MOAS SOT program. He later came by my house to get Carol's certified training program, and left with 20 Box Kits to conduct a drive at his Post. We also picked up 15 boxes from the residents of the Fountains of Lake Pointe Woods in Sarasota, organized by Kathy Hallock.

Please note that the present force structure projected for Afghanistan is in the many tens of thousands through 2014. We must not let them be forgotten. Send an SOT box to someone in harm's way.

I am looking for someone who is interested in taking over the SOT program. The best way to do this would be to just join our Committee and slowly pick up different phases of the operation.

**NOTE:** The fee to ship a USPS Priority Mail Flat rate box, APO/FPO, will rise to \$13.45 Jan 22, 2012.



### ACADEMIC OLYMPIC SCHEDULE

All matches start @ 3:15 P.M.

- Feb. 7** Cardinal Mooney vs. Sarasota Military @SMA  
Northport vs. Suncoast @ Suncoast  
Booker vs. Riverview @ Riverview  
Pine View vs. Venice @Venice  
Sarasota - Bye
- Feb. 14** Cardinal Mooney vs. North Port @ North Port  
Booker vs. Sarasota Military @ SMA  
Suncoast vs. Pine View @Pine View  
Sarasota vs. Riverview @ Riverview  
Venice - Bye
- Feb. 21** Cardinal Mooney vs. Booker @Booker  
North Port vs. Pine View @ Pine View  
SMA vs. Sarasota@ Sarasota  
Riverview vs. Venice @ Venice  
Suncoast Bye
- Feb. 28** Cardinal Mooney vs. Pine View @ Pine View  
Booker vs. Sarasota @ Sarasota  
Sarasota Military vs. Venice @ Venice  
Suncoast vs. Riverview @ Riverview  
North Port - Bye

### VPA

- Feb. 8, 9, 10, 11** - *All In The Timing* (Comedy) - 7:00 PM  
Adults \$15; Seniors \$10; Students \$5  
Tickets: Call Judy Piercy 355-2967
- Feb. 22** - Classical Musical Concert - 7:30 PM  
\$5 at door

The key to *All In The Timing* is indeed all in the timing - David Ives's six short plays are built on snappy patter, quick-fire comic brilliance, inspired gibberish and paradoxical plot quirks, and it takes a quick-witted cast to pull it off and an equally nimble audience to keep up.

Each of Ives's short plays goes out on a different limb, starting with *Sure Thing*, a comedy of errors about dating disasters. It takes a lot of hilarious do-overs, many of which may remind you of the Mr. and Ms. Wrongs in your own experience, before these two lovebirds get together.

The funniest piece is *The Philadelphia*, about a man named Mark who's woken up with a nagging headache in a parallel New York in which the taxis go the wrong direction, the newsstands refuse to sell the local tabloids, and, especially unlucky for him at this moment, the drugstores have no aspirin.

*All In The Timing* is a real pleasure - a collection of brain-teasing comedies that will push your smart buttons while cracking you up.



## MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS

*George Tracy*

Dear MOAS Members, I was privileged earlier this month to attend the Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) President's Winter Meeting, which brought together MOAA chapter leaders from around our state and featured an excellent workshop for Membership Chairmen, like myself. The workshop emphasized the importance of Chapter recruiting and retention to the continued success of MOAA national efforts on your behalf in Washington and our chapter services here at home. In addition to providing us with a number of tools, techniques and lessons learned to enhance MOAS recruiting and retention processes, the program reinforced the fact that you are our most important resource for finding new members.

If you are happy with our social programs and our community involvement, we hope you will spread the word and inspire other retired and/or former military officers to join us. If, on the other hand, you feel there are other MOAS social and/or community services that would attract new members, please feel free to share your recommendations with myself or any other member of our Board listed on page 2 of *The Breeze*. We are committed to working with you to accomplish our mission to improve the awareness, life style, and overall environment of MOAS members; support and serve the citizens of the Sarasota area; influence the political process in matters pertaining to retired military personnel and veterans; and enhance the image of America's uniformed services in our local community".

As an active MOAS member, you will have received an email, a letter, or both, from us with your renewal application attached. This critical effort to retain your kind support, through 2012 membership renewals and scholarship donations, has now paid over 62% of our MOAS 2012 dues-target with over 25% of MOAS active membership contributing scholarship support. Of course, our goal of 100% renewal participation has not yet been reached!! So, again, if you have not already responded, please do so at your next opportunity! We are in the process of finalizing our budget to continue our 2012 services and we would like to initiate the publication of our 2012 MOAS Membership Directory.

That said, I trust that your New Year has gotten off to a very positive start and that it will continue to bring you the best of good health and prosperity throughout.

**Thanks for your support of MOAS!!**



**Directory Changes**  
**Address Changes/Updates**

**John P. Barker COL, USA (Patti)**  
Candyland Ranch  
7827 Myakka Valley Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34241

**Muriel R. Hinkle**  
9 Cove Road  
Stonington, CT 06375

**Larry G. Lovell COL, USA (Dee)**  
7563 Camden Harbour Drive  
Bradenton, FL 34212

## Habitat for Humanity Sarasota Needs You to Get the Word Out

Please spread the word to veterans groups, friends, co-workers and neighbors that Habitat Sarasota, Inc. will dedicate a future new home build to a needy returning veteran and his/her family. The letter below from Fred Scheerle, Director of Family Services at Habitat Sarasota explains the program and gives the contact information.



December 1, 2011



1.5 million Veterans are considered at-risk of homelessness due to poverty, lack of support networks, and dismal living conditions in overcrowded or substandard housing.

Habitat for Humanity Sarasota, FL believes that our Veterans deserve a clean, safe, positive environment in which to live, knowing the sacrifices that they made for our country during their time on active duty, and the cost of that service to them since coming home. Habitat for Humanity Sarasota is announcing they will dedicate a future new home construction build for a veteran and their family.

The typical Habitat homeowner is a working family or single parent household, with earning less than 70% of the area median income. Our homeowners attend a series of homeownership education classes, invest an average 300 hours of sweat equity and pay a down payment of \$1,600 or more toward the purchase of their home. We provide mortgage financing for 30 years at 0% interest. Our successful program requires each qualified homebuyer to make an investment and commitment to homeownership.

For further information please contact Fred Scheerle, Director of Family Services at (941) 365-0700

*Building homes, Building futures*

Habitat for Humanity for Humanity Sarasota, Inc.  
1757 N. East Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34234 941.365.0700, FAX 941.363.7775  
www.sarasotahabitat.com



L to R: Sarasota Opera performers Steven Uliana, Dimitrie Lazich, Sarah Asmar, Maestro Tony Cho, and Jeffrey Beruan flank MOAS program coordinator Margarete Wiltshire (3rd from right).



Carole Berkey & Elke Scott



Helen & Cliff Berman (seated) with their guest Penny Wheeler (standing) ----->

Elizabeth & Ed Roberts <-----



Althea Seikunas (Center) flanked by her guests Bill & Nancy Thompson (L) and Pat & Bill Cartwright (R)

----->



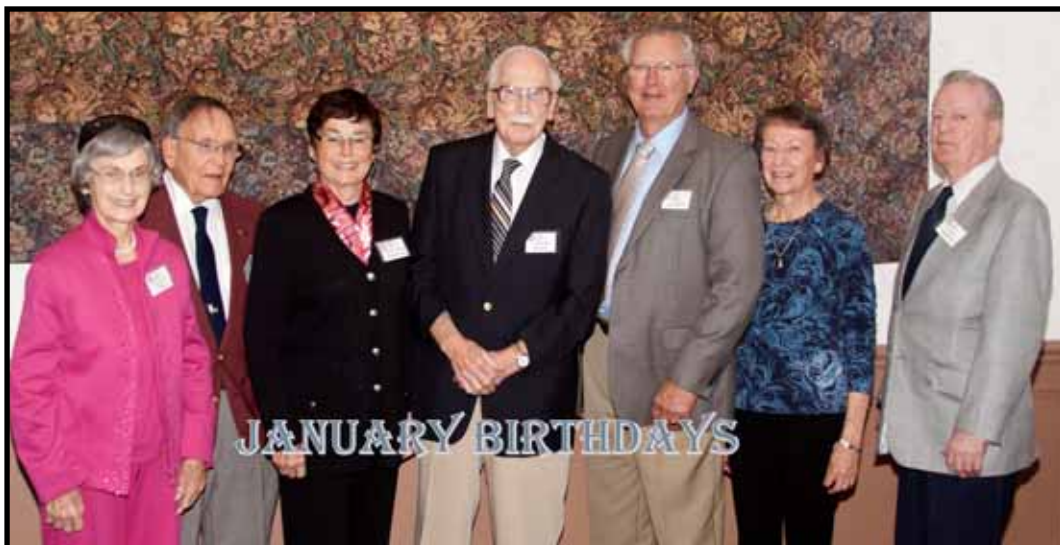


**Gudrun & Jorgen Graugaard (center) are flanked by their guests Prudy & Jim Hilger (L) and Beverly & Ray Broth (R)**



**New Members Mary Jo and Ed Krebs**

**Troy & Elke Scott flank their guests (L to R) Marilee Young, strong supporter of SOT at the YMCA, and Carl & Roberta Benninghof**



**L to R: Evelyn Ladd, Don Harvey, Wilhelmina Ellermets, Leland Miles, Gary Munkholm, Carole Welch & William Fitzgerald**

**MOAS Luncheon**  
**Friday, February 17, 2012**  
**SELBY GARDENS GREAT**  
**ROOM BY THE BAY**



*MENU*

*SERVED LUNCHEON*

Tossed Spinach Salad with Dried Cranberries, Feta Cheese, Grape Tomatoes, Spiced Walnuts, Sliced Mushrooms & Balsamic Vinaigrette

Signature Bread Basket

*ENTREE*

Roasted Pork Medallions with Chili Maple Sauce  
 Mashed Sweet Potatoes with Brown Sugar & Crushed Pecans,  
 Haricot Verts & Fire Roasted Corn

*SERVED DESSERT*

Peanut Butter Pie  
 Oreo Cookie Crust, Creamy Peanut Butter Mousse topped with Whipped Cream

Served Coffee, Decaf & Tea

Pre-Set Iced Tea with Lemon

**MOAS LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS**

For 2/17/12 at 11:30 AM - **Selby Gardens Great Room**  
**PLEASE NOTE NEW PRICE**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the Luncheon.  
 A check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed based on **\$25.00**  
 for each person attending (Tax & Tip included).

\_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME, RANK, & PHONE # of Requesting Member.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Please print names of additional persons attending.  
 (Use an extra sheet of paper if necessary)

New or First Time Attending Member \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your birthday month? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your spouse's birthday month? \_\_\_\_\_

Return the form with check made out to MOAS

Mail to:

**ELKE SCOTT**  
**841 FORESTVIEW COURT**  
**SARASOTA, FL. 34232**

PLEASE NOTE: Elke's Phone #379-3023

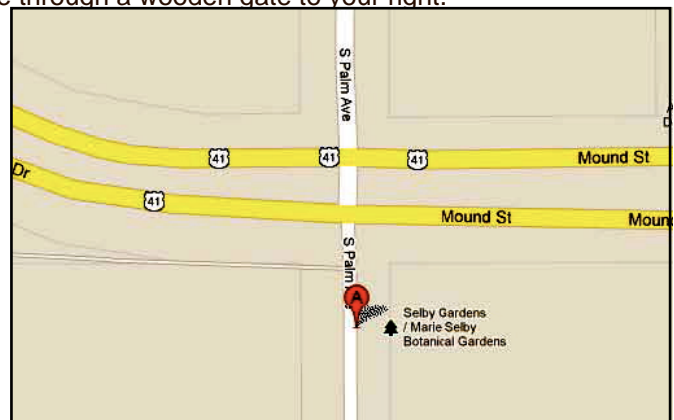
**NOTICE**

We must provide the restaurant with an exact number of reservations at least 72 hours in advance of event. No additional requests or refunds will be honored after that time. Request for menu changes due to dietary restrictions should be provided at the time of reservation. Please do not contact Michael's on East directly. Thank you.

*February Luncheon @ Selby Gardens*

**MOAS is going on a Field Trip!!!**

Our February luncheon, will be catered by Michael's on East at the **Selby Gardens Great Room by the Bay**. To gain entry to the Selby grounds please use the **S. PALM AVE** entrance (West of 41). After turning onto **S.PALM AVE** the entrance will be through a wooden gate to your right.





**MOAS CALENDAR  
FEBRUARY - MARCH 2012**



| DATE               | EVENT  | TIME       |
|--------------------|--|------------|
| Feb. 5 Sunday      | YAHOO Event: Super Bowl Party - Details on Pg 6  | 5:00 p.m.  |
| Feb. 6, Monday     | Board Meeting at Meadows Community Association   | 4:00 p.m.  |
| Feb 7, 14, 21, 28  | Academic Olympics (Various Locations)-Details on Pg 7  | 3:15 p.m.  |
| Feb 8, 9,10,11     | Booker VPA - <i>All In The Timing</i> - Details on Pg 7  | 7:00 p.m.  |
| Feb. 17, Friday    | MOAS Luncheon at <i>Selby Gardens Great Room</i>  | 11:30 a.m. |
| Feb. 22, Wednesday | Booker VPA - Classical Music Concert - Details on Pg 7   | 7:30 p.m.  |
| Mar. 5, Monday     | Board Meeting at Meadows Community Association   | 4:00 p.m.  |
| Mar. 16, Friday    | MOAS Luncheon - Michaels on East                  | 11:30 a.m. |
| Mar. 17, Saturday  | YAHOO Event:St. Patrick's Day Party-Details on Pg 6  | 5:30 p.m.  |