

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; MOAA 5 Star Chapter 2004-2007 & 2009-2015
Best Newsletter 2007 & 2010; 1st Runner Up 2008, 2012 - 2014; 2nd Runner Up 2009

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April 2016

MARCH PROGRAM: Steven Garcia: "What's New About What The VA Can Do For You"

by Perry Korszen

Steven Garcia gave an extremely important and informative presentation to the membership at our March luncheon. He is one of six Sarasota County Veteran Service Officers whose sole mandate is to help veterans and their family members get the VA benefits they are eligible for. He clarified many different topics and made it very clear that many of us are not applying for and using the benefits that we have earned through our military service.



One of the most striking examples applies to Vietnam era veterans who have been exposed to Agent Orange and other hazardous materials; regardless of whether the exposure occurred overseas or in the states. There are numerous presumptive conditions, including Type 2 diabetes that would make a veteran eligible for medical benefits without having to prove a connection between their service and their illness. Additionally, the list of covered conditions and eligibility requirements are frequently changed and updated. This means that even those who were denied coverage in the past could reapply and get approved.

Steven also explained the recent updates in benefits for any service members and their family members who were stationed in Camp Lejeune from 1953 to 1987 and may have been exposed to contaminated water.

Steven addressed far more topics than can be mentioned here but he invites any veteran, and especially any surviving spouse, with questions about their eligibility to contact him at sgarcia@scgov.net or 941-861-2899.

There is also a Stand Down for homeless veterans in Sarasota on April 26th from 8:00am -12:00pm at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Blvd, Sarasota. If you know of any homeless vets in the area, please let them know about the stand down and that there will be many services and items offered.

APRIL PROGRAM: Attorney Lisa Goldstein: "The VA and Medicaid Tsunami; Change is Coming"

by Perry Korszen

At the upcoming April Luncheon, Elder Law Attorney Lisa Goldstein will be addressing issues vitally important to our membership. She will explain the strategies and challenges to funding and providing care for our disabled and aging loved ones; and the importance of pre-planning in light of the proposed Veterans Affairs Three-Year-Look-Back on transfers of assets.

A longtime Florida resident, Lisa raised her family in Broward County where she settled after graduating from University of Baltimore School of Law. After being admitted to the Florida Bar, Lisa was appointed an assistant state attorney under the Honorable Michael J. Satz. Serving for a brief stint as a General Master for the 17th Judicial Circuit, Lisa was appointed by the Honorable Miette Burnstein to become the first Public Guardian in Broward County's history.

In 1992 she began her private practice, devoting her attention to the legal needs of seniors and the disabled, and has been a VA accredited attorney for years. She is a former board member of Florida State Guardianship Association (FSGA) as well as a current board member of the Treasure Coast Chapter of FSGA. She has been active in the Florida Bar Elder Law Section where she chaired the guardianship and legislative committees. She now works exclusively in the area of elder law where she has successfully assisted hundreds of families over the years that face difficult decisions when caring for an elderly or disabled relative by helping them obtain VA and Medicaid benefits. Known as the Lawyer with a Heart, she takes her motto "Do good by doing good" seriously by providing personalized services to all her clients.

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Receive the Breeze in color via email or view it on our website www.sarasotamoaa.com or blog <http://sarasotamoaa.us>

Military Officers Association of Sarasota (MOAS) Mission

MOAS, a non-profit 501c(19) organization, exists to improve the awareness, life style, and overall environment of its members; support and serve the citizens of the Sarasota area; influence the political process in matters pertaining to active duty, retired and former military personnel; and enhance the image of America's uniformed services in our local community.

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

President	George Tracy	907-9865
1st Vice President (Membership)	Brian McCarthy	323-1562
2nd Vice President	Perry Korszen	907-3732
Treasurer	Christa Friedlander	927-0996
Secretary	George Tracy	907-9865
Director (Scholarships)	Claire M. Power	921-1931
Director (Publicity)	Alan Forrester	504-5759
Past President	John O'Brien	907-8891

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Program Planning	Perry Korszen	907-3732
Chaplain	Charles Caudill	751-3810
Legislative Affairs	Len Friedlander	927-0996
	Tony Mowry	480-0333
SCVeterans Commission	Patricia McLain	371-0883
Veterans Task Force	Tom Piazza	761-1278
Historian	George Tracy	907-9865
Awards Board	Jonathan Gordon	923-2302

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Chairperson	Brian McCarthy	323-1562
Recruiting & Retention	Troy Scott	379-3023
Recruiting & Retention	Perry Korszen	907-3732

Scholarship Committee

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Member	Kay Tracy	907-9865
Member	Carol O'Brien	907-8891
Member	Mike Staley	752-4086
Member	Jean Southworth	922-5081
Member	Len Friedlander	927-0996
JROTC Liaison	Tony Mowry	(907) 888-8355

Scheduled Events Committee

Chair/Reservations	Elke Scott	379-3023
Greeters	John & Carol O'Brien	907-8891
Reception Manager	Pat McLain	371-0883
Asst. Reception Manager	June Moore	388-3118
50-50 Managers	Kay Tracy	907-9865
	Christa Friedlander	927-0996

Special Programs

Flag Programs & Celebrations	Tom Piazza	761-1278
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Personal Affairs Committee

Chairperson	Charles Caudill	751-3810
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Auxiliary

Chairperson	Peggy Mock	356-3584
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Social Club YAHOO (Young At Heart Officers Org)

Manager	John O'Brien obrienjc@aol.com	907-8891
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Support Our Troops Program

Program Co-Chairpersons	John & Carol O'Brien	907-8891
Program Co-Chairpersons	Jim & Joyce Hesson	926-8702

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

George Tracy

First, I wanted to thank the Gordon's for hosting a really enjoyable YAHOO St. Patrick's Day Party. Everyone came with some sort of GREEN celebratory garb, enjoyed great food, great desserts and an impressive attempt at Irish trivia. And, though there was not a costume competition, I must applaud the striking outfits of Robbie & Ed Hamilton, topped with huge Leprechaun hats! Fun is an important dimension of what we do! Let's make more of it for everyone!! Thanks Mary & Jon!!

Please keep these important upcoming dates in mind and try to attend and support them if you can:

29 March – Tribute to Vietnam Veterans, Patriot Plaza, 5PM

2 April – Sarasota County Academic Olympic finals at Suncoast Technical College

26 April - [Sarasota Homeless Veteran Stand Down, 8-12PM, 2200 Ringling](#)

2 May – 4th Annual JFCS Tribute to Veterans for Len Friedlander

13-15 May – FCOC Annual Convention – Lakeland, FL

20 May – The Annual MOAS Scholarship Awards Luncheon

30 May – Memorial Day Parade – Support Our Troops box distribution

REMINDER: Make it a point to visit our newly designed MOAS web site at www.sarasotamoaa.com; set up your MOAS member access account; and review the content. We appreciate any constructive feedback that will help us provide a web site that best meets Veteran needs!!

I was very impressed with the presentation of Steven Garcia, USMC, Sarasota Veteran Services Officer, at our March luncheon - finding myself **hearing and understanding about Veterans and Surviving Spouse benefit opportunities; too many of which I had not heard before, and realizing how important the knowledge is to us and those we continue to serve.** So I stopped by the Sarasota Veteran Services Office (2200 Ringling) and retrieved additional information to disseminate through our channels, including more of Steven's cards. He said, for example, there is no excuse for a Veteran in Sarasota to be homeless. "If you encounter one, do not give him money, [give him my card!!](#)" Will do!! **Contact: Steven Garcia, Veterans Service Officer, Human Services, sgarcia@scgov.net, (941) 861-2899.**

As Tom Piazza said at the March luncheon, we are preparing for another Flag Day event on June 12th, and two more events, November 13th and 14th which need considerable volunteer and donor support, that Tom (tepiazze@gmail.com; 941-761-1278) is mobilizing as we speak. Thanks for considering assisting any MOAS committee that you feel can best use your services! You would be most welcome and, no doubt, enjoyably challenged to create and innovate!!

Important Reminder!!: We are still in the midst of our 2016 Membership Renewal Campaign and have not heard from many of you. "**[We really need you to remain an active MOAS member in 2016](#)**" to continue to support your interests and the MOAA fight for Veterans. **[Thank You for your support!!](#)**

Thanks to all who attended our March luncheon and to our Luncheon Support Team for their always-outstanding work. Remember and live by our MOAA mantras, "**[Never Stop Serving!](#)**" and "**[Take Action!](#)**"



SECRETARY'S CORNER

George Tracy

President George Tracy called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM on Monday March 7, 2016 at the Meadows Community Center. **ATTENDANCE:** Board Members Present: George Tracy (Pres); Brian McCarthy (1VP); Christa Friedlander (Treas); Alan Forester (Dir); Claire Power (Dir); John O'Brien (PP). Board Members Absent: Perry Korszen (2VP); Chairs & Visitors Present: Pat McLain, Tom Piazza & Len Friedlander

BOARD MEETINGS AND LUNCHEONS

MONTH	BOARD	LUNCHEON
APRIL	4	15
MAY	2	20
JUNE	6	17

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President advised that he has taken over MOAS Secretary duties, pending replacement for Jack Bartler, who has requested to be excused due to lack of availability. The Board is seeking volunteers for this position. Brian is assisting in the interim. Brian McCarthy, Craig Hullinger, Len Friedlander and George Tracy reviewed the new MOAS web site and Brian implemented recommended adjustments. Completed and submitted the 2016 MOAA Level of Excellence Award submission well before the 1 March deadline. Received a Thank You letter from Col Mike Turner, USAF (Ret) acknowledging our first (of four) annual \$125 contribution, as a Bronze Founding Chapter Member of the MOAA Heritage Society, supporting the MOAA Military Family Initiative. The Board is seeking a MOAA Life Member as our honorary MHS representative. Resubmitted our MOAS letter to John Rosentrater, Director, Sarasota National Cemetery, requesting approval to conduct a 2016 Flag Day event on June 12 at Patriot Plaza. Tom Piazza is organizing the volunteer resources to prepare for this free event and for the funding events in November. Advised the Board of changes to the MOAS volunteer Officers/Staff roster with himself replacing Jack Bartler as Secretary and Historian; Tom Piazza as MOAS Lead for the Veterans Task Force and Special Programs (Flag Initiative & Celebrations); and with Lee Kichen moved back to the Bradenton Chapter. Will send MOAS web site email reminders inviting members, providing correction "usernames", to set up their MOAS web site accounts for access to member services. Invited and encouraged the Board, Staff and membership to attend the May 13 FCOC Annual Convention, providing a Sign Up!! Attachment, as needed! And to also attend the Fourth Annual Tribute to Veterans Service to Community Awards Luncheon, sponsored by JFCS, on Monday, May 2 at Michael's on East, chaired by our own, Troy Scott, and honoring Len Friedlander among others.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Feb 1, 2016 Board meeting minutes were unanimously approved with minor corrections. Jack Bartler resigned as Secretary due to time constraints.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Florida certified SMOSF as a charity and authorized solicitation of funds. SMOSF received \$19 from Amazon Smiles & MOAS received \$40 from MOAA. The Treasurer reported the following balances as of February 29, 2016 and the report approved unanimously.

MOAS Operating Account		\$30,238.86
Operating Fund	\$ 26,937.49	
LoV Flag initiative	\$ 3,301.37	
Scholarship Fund Account		\$40,820.83
Undesignated Scholarship Fund	\$18,363.62	

JROTC/Merit Scholarships	\$12,000.00
2016 Schmidt Scholarships (Merit/Vet)	\$ 2,000.00
Veterans Scholarships	\$ 1,000.00
Academic Olympics	\$ 1,500.00
JROTC Support	\$ 1,000.00
Outstanding Cadet	\$ 500.00
SOT Fund	\$ 4,457.21

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Scheduled Events (Elke Scott): The February Luncheon paid attendance was 102, with a loss of \$55; the 50/50 was \$214.

Newsletter (Len Friedlander): The March Breeze was emailed to 344 recipients; 110 copies were printed and 100 copies mailed.

Scholarships (Claire Power): Claire reported that all schools have been contacted for this year's scholarship program. The deadline for scholarship application submissions is March 31, 2016.

Publicity (Alan Forrester): Two press releases were distributed to our media groups (and published in the Herald Tribune), "Military Officers Association Learns How to Avoid Cardiologists" and "Military Officers Association Promotes Vietnam War 50th Commemoration - America Thanks You."

Programs (Perry Korszen):

LUNCHEON PROGRAMS	
MARCH	Steve Garcia - Sarasota Veterans Service Officer
APRIL	Lisa Goldstein - Elder Care Attorney
MAY	Scholarships - Bill Church - Editor, Herald Tribune

Membership (Brian McCarthy): Approximately 68 members have not responded to the renewal campaign. Christa & Len will send out postal mailings to the outstanding renewals. George reserves the option of further phone follow-up for non-responders to confirm their status.

MOAS	2015	1/1/2016	2/29/2016
REGULAR	278	278	265
SURVIVING SPOUSES	74	74	73
ALLIED	4	4	4
TOTAL	356	356	342

Support Our Troops (John O'Brien): John reported that he needs the "old" SOT web site to remain operational to allow transition of current, long-term non-MOAS users to the "new" MOAS web site SOT support page. The current domain is registered through 12/31/16 and hosting services will be renewed month-to-month until John is satisfied that transition can occur without adverse impact.

YAHOO (John O'Brien): The Gordon's will host the St Patrick's Day party on March 17th and the Staley's will host a Kentucky Derby event supporting SOT on May 7th. A Beach Day may be in the works.

NEW BUSINESS: The Board approved a donation of \$100 to the SE Guide Dogs. Brian McCarthy confirmed that the insurance arrangements for the Flag Day and Veterans Day MOAS-POPS sponsored events are covered under the POPS insurance policy with no requirement for additional coverage by MOAS. The Board approved Treasurer action to remove the performance event rider from our policy for a savings of \$60. A copy of the Pops Orchestra's policy has been provided. The Board seeks a volunteer(s) to assume responsibility for the Veterans Commission Liaison and the Academic Olympic Sponsorship roles to provide needed relief for Pat McLain. **Flag Initiative (Tom Piazza):** Goodwill Manasota has 47 boxes of collected flags that need ceremonial disposal, which he will coordinate. He reported on this year's Stars & Stripes Foundation programs. Tom will speak about the programs at the March luncheon, asking for donations and assistance at the events. Tom reiterated that profits from the events will be distributed 1/3 each to The Stars & Stripes Foundation, MOAS and the Pops Orchestra.

NEXT MEETING: Meeting was adjourned at 5:15PM. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 4:00PM on Monday April 4, 2016 at the Meadows Community Center.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Len Friedlander

Lawmaker Blasts Plan to Cap Military Pay Raise

At a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing Tuesday, Personnel Subcommittee chair Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) told service chiefs he's not happy DoD is proposing yet another reduced military pay raise for 2017. "For the last three years, this administration has failed to allow service members' pay to keep up with the private sector wage growth," said Graham. "This is the fourth year in a row where the department is shortchanging service members."

DoD is touting the proposed 1.6% pay raise as the largest raise in the last four years. However, it is still below the average American's 2.1 percent raise, as measured by the Employment Cost Index (ECI). If Congress doesn't reject the Pentagon proposal, the cumulative four-year pay gap will increase to 3.1%.

MOAA agrees with Sen. Graham's concern on both the pay raise and TSP matching issues.

- See more at: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Currently-Serving/Lawmaker-Blasts-Plan-to-Cap-Military-Pay-Raise.aspx>

VA Will Cover Hepatitis C

A new VA ruling - effective immediately - extends coverage of Hepatitis C treatment to all veterans, regardless of stage of liver disease. The VA ruling comes at a time when an estimated 200,000 veterans suffer from Hepatitis C.

Last year, the VA faced a budget deficit, largely due to the costs of newly developed Hepatitis C treatments. Medication and treatments developed within the last three years can actually cure the disease, have no side effects, and save tens of billions of dollars in late-life intervention from medical complications.

MOAA is aware of the extraordinary costs of these medications, but we are pleased Congress recognizes the importance of this life saving treatment. MOAA is proud to have worked with our Military Coalition and Veteran Service Organization partners to help vets get the best medical care available.

- See more at: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Former-Officers/VA-Will-Cover-Hepatitis-C.aspx>

DoD Policy Change on PTSD Punitive Discharges

Back in September 2014, then Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel issued a memo instructing Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records (BCM/NR) to grant "liberal consideration" to requests for discharge upgrades from veterans who may have been suffering from PTSD before it was a recognized diagnosis. Previously, those upgrade requests would have been denied, because veterans had no way of proving they had PTSD while still in service. The policy change was especially helpful for Vietnam veterans, whose post-service PTSD diagnoses had not been recognized by the BCM/NR up to that point.

Unfortunately, the memo did not explicitly allow veterans who had been denied under the old rules to

reapply under the new rules. To correct this error, DOD issued a memo on Feb 24th, clarifying that those veterans may reapply under the new policy. It also waives the statute of limitations in those cases.

If you or someone you know wishes to apply for a discharge upgrade under this policy, go to the Pentagon website <http://arba.army.pentagon.mil/adrb-ptsd.cfm>. To read the February 24 DOD memo, go to the DoD website: http://www.defense.gov/Portals/1/Documents/pubs/Consideration_on_Discharge_Upgrade_Requests.pdf

Congress Ramps Up Health Care Talks

The House Armed Services Military Personnel Subcommittee Chairman invited MOAA and a small handful of stakeholders to Capitol Hill on March 17 to discuss Pentagon proposals to reform the military's health care system (MHS), and MOAA Government Relations Director Col. Steve Strobbridge, USAF (Ret) told the panel that DoD's plan contained only vague statements on needed improvements, focusing mainly on adding several new fees and raising a wide range of others, especially for the retired community.

Col. Strobbridge noted the proposed fee schedules were designed to push more care to military hospitals and clinics, which have been the primary sources of access problems. "Our preference would be to ensure access is improved in the [military facilities] before implementing a fee structure intended to drive more care there."

Lawmakers were receptive to MOAA's and other witnesses' inputs, and agreed the focus of military health reform must be on improving timely access to quality care rather than simply raising beneficiary fees.

See more at: http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Currently-Serving/Congress-Ramps-Up-Health-Care-Talks.aspx?utm_source=legis&utm_medium=email&utm_content=contenttam&utm_campaign=healthcaretalks#sthash.q8k9vvN1.dpuf

MOAA Testifies on Veterans Priorities

Last week, MOAA Deputy Director of Government Relations CDR René Campos, USN (Ret), presented MOAA veterans' health and benefits priorities before a joint hearing of the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees. The hearing comes on the heels of a letter sent this week to the committees' leadership from several veteran organizations urging lawmakers to work together in a bicameral, bipartisan manner to enact legislation this year to give the VA the resources it needs to complete necessary reforms.

CDR Campos focused on improving VA-sponsored community care, women veterans' health care, upgrades to the appeals process, and stronger financial protections for military families. Other recommendations discussed at the hearing included; mental health care, suicide prevention, homeless, and caregiver support programs; integrating educational assistance programs; authorizing service connection for "Blue Water" Navy Vietnam veterans who have one or more diseases on the Agent Orange presumptive list. The Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee plans to pass an omnibus veterans bill by Memorial Day. See more at: http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Former-Officers/MOAA-Testifies-on-Veteran-Priorities.aspx?utm_source=legis&utm_medium=email&utm_content=contenttam&utm_campaign=vettestimony



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Charles Caudill

Samurai Spirit

Recently I visited the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota to see the Samurai Exhibit and felt all of us could learn from the warrior's devotion to duty and discipline. The code of the Samurai is summarized by these three expressions:

- A Samurai is a man of few words.
- A Samurai does not serve two masters.
- A Samurai is ready to shed his blood to give his life to his lord at any moment

He made a solemn oath with blood that united him and his lord until death or until one broke the oath. The pact involved not only the Samurai himself, but also reflected upon his family; the wife of a Samurai was herself a Samurai, as were their children and heirs.

When we joined the military we made a commitment "to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic." Our country needs its citizens to continue this commitment because there is a concerted effort by some to eradicate Christianity, Judaism and other faiths around the world and to control peoples' minds and lives.

As we go through the current political environment we are reminded this is part of the process to assure the



protection of the Constitution. My wife has put up with my obsession to watch all the news I can with little sleep. I attribute my obsession to my DNA and upbringing.

Part of my clan left Scotland in the 1600's because they were upset that Henry VIII commanded everyone must follow the religion he set up; subsequent to that, John Knox proclaimed all Scottish citizens had to worship in the Church of Scotland. My ancestors arrived in Virginia in 1684 and brought a firm resolve that individual rights were to be preserved. Our family handed down this motto: "No king, no church will ever tell me what to believe, only God can do that." Freedom was to be protected. That is why we fought in the Revolutionary War and in every war since then.

America's founding fathers put into writing our sacred pledge when they wrote in The Constitution: "...WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness —That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed,..."

The Samurai lost their way of life because they were servants to an individual and not protectors of the people. We in the military have dedicated our lives to preserving the freedoms provided to everyone under our Constitution, and this must not end at our retirement ceremonies from active duty. Our responsibility is to remain true to these precepts and teach them to our families.



ACADEMIC OLYMPICS

Pat McLain

The Sarasota County Academic Olympics competition between schools began on Jan 19th and the weekly round-robin competition runs through the end of March with the semi-final and final competition conducted on April 2nd. All matches begin at 3:00 pm at the stated location. Non-high school off-site locations are:

- VCC** = Venice Community Center
- LND** = Landings - Sarasota Cty School Board - Blue Bldg

Tuesday Mar. 22, 2016

- Sarasota HS vs. Booker HS @ Booker HS
- Riverview HS vs. Cardinal Mooney HS @ Cardinal Mooney HS
- Suncoast Polytech HS vs. Pine View HS @ Pine View HS
- Venice HS vs. Imagine North Port @ Imagine North Port
- North Port HS Bye

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

PLAY OFFS

- Team 1 vs. Team 8 @ Team 1 location
- Team 2 vs. Team 7 @ Team 2 location
- Team 3 vs. Team 6 @ Team 3 location
- Team 4 vs. Team 5 @ Team 4 location

The top four teams will compete at Suncoast Technical College
4748 S. Beneva Road
Sarasota FL 34233

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Semi-Finals

- Game 1 - Team 2 vs. Team 3 @ 9:00 a.m.**
- Game 2 - Team 1 vs. Team 4 @ 10:30 a.m.**

Lunch @ Noon - Pizza Party for All Academic Olympics Participants

Finals

For 3rd place

- Game 3 - Game 1 Loser vs. Game 2 Loser @ 12:30 p.m.**
- For 1st Place

- Game 4 - Game 1 Winner vs. Game 2 Winner @ 2:00 p.m.**

Awards Ceremony

- MVP Awards
- Trophy presentation



March Luncheon Photos



New member Tom Macdonald with George Tracy (R)



Troy (L) & Elke Scott (2d from R) with guests Anna & Rene Faessler, our newest Allied members



New member Alden Keyser & guest Steve Bray



Wilhelmina & Arne Ellermets



Bettye & Jack Sarjeant flank their guest Jolee Suskovic



Willie Oler & Robbye Langenfeld



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

(L-R) Jeffrey Wortmann,
 Mary Quigley,
 Margarete Wiltshire,
 Vic Reiling,
 Mary Scheb,
 Pat McLain,
 Barbara Hamilton,
 Paul O'Connell



Mary & Jon Gordon



Margarete & Russ Wiltshire flank potential new member Daniel Knauf & their guest Rosa Herst



David & Brenda Maraman



Ralph & Jinny Scheffert



John O'Brien (L) & Luncheon Speaker Steven Garcia



(L-R) Don Harvey, Ernie Beissinger & George Johnson



Bill Robertson (L) & Tom Piazze



YAHOO
 Young at Heart Officers Organization
John O'Brien

The annual St. Patrick's Day gathering at Mary & Jon Gordon's home was magnificent as always. Lots of green food for appetizers; and corn beef, cabbage, mash potatoes and Irish corn bread rounded out the meal. Of course, we had the usual green beer, and the finishing touches were the many desserts. We finished the evening with a game of Irish trivia. A great time was had by all.

A board member has offered to organize a beach gathering on Siesta Key sometime in June or July. In the fall, we have some plans in the making. Thanks to all who have stepped up to organize events to finish out this year.

Saturday May 7th @ 7:00PM
The Kentucky Derby @ The Staleys

Ladies & gentlemen, the time has come for all good people to don their best chapeau, tip a mint julep and lay down hard cash on your favorite filly.

This event will commence at **7:00 pm.** at the Staley Household. Race attire will be more than welcome. Ladies are encouraged to be outrageous with their hats, after all this is... **Derby Day.** Prizes awarded for best "Ladies hat."

Race cards and instructions will be handed out before the races begin. Everyone will have a chance to raise their bets once the horses have been viewed. We have a professional crew that will sell race tickets and an extraordinary TOTE working the odds.

There will be "only" 5 races. Six ladies of our choice will orchestrate the final race. After the races the stands will

be emptied and directed to the feed stalls for food, and a limited amount of liquid refreshments will be provided, otherwise BYOB.

Bets will start at \$1.00. Again there are only 5 races.



One may have a lovely evening for not more than \$5.00 (if you are gutsy). The proceeds of the evening will benefit **MOAS' SOT** (Support Our Troops) Program. Please join us in our endeavor to have fun, enjoy each others company, and have a few brews and tasty Derby Day morsels.

DIRECTIONS: Take I-75 Exit 217 and bear EAST onto State Road #70. Go 3 miles to Lakewood Ranch Boulevard. Turn right into LWR and go one mile to the 4-way stop. Turn right onto Clubhouse Drive. Go one block to Summerfield Woods & Bluffs turn left onto Tumbleweed Drive. Drive just past the little island and turn left onto Pine Lilly Place. Second house on the right – 11408 Pine Lilly Place. RSVP NLT May 1st. staleycp8181@yahoo.com or (941) 752-4086.

FROM THE AIR - See JANE'S flight manual for Sarasota/Bradenton. Look under "**Party!**"



VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS
 @ Booker High School
Pat McLain

Mar 31 – Apr 2 7:00 PM Spring Dance Performance

Tickets: Adults \$15; Seniors \$10; Students \$5.

Call Judy Piercy at 941.355.2967, Ext. 1 or

<http://www.vpabooker.com/tickets>

Apr 1 6:00 PM Visual Art & Motion Design Showcase Building 8

Apr 14 - 16 7:00 PM - Spring Musical - Pippin

Apr 16 2:00 PM Matinee

Tickets: Adults \$15; Seniors \$10; Students \$5

Call Judy Piercy 941-355-2967, Ext. 1 or

<http://www.vpabooker.com/tickets>

Apr 26 7:00 PM - Shining Stars Music Concert

Tickets: \$10 for all

May 3 7:00 PM Senior Music Recital

May 19 7:00 PM Senior Theater Recital

May 20 7:00 PM Senior Dance, Visual Art, Film & Digimo Recital

Donations are appreciated for art exhibits and senior recitals

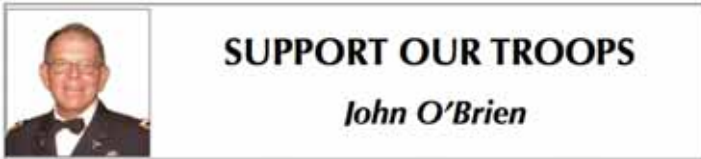
Pippin

Pippin is an ambitious show with lots of music, singing, dancing, acrobatics and magic. It is the story of the young son of King Charles, whom most of us know as Charlamagne. The boy, Pippin, is dissatisfied with his life and wants to do great things and become the king himself. There is also Pippin's devious but charming Stepmother, Fastiada. Learning of Pippin's plot against his Father, she sees a way to eliminate both of them.

The musical uses the premise of a mysterious performing troupe led by a leading player to tell the story of the young prince in his search for meaning in his life.

The book is by Roger O'Herion; music and lyrics by Stephen Swartz; and directed by Bob Fosse. Pippin is a highflying, death-defying hit musical that won 4 Tony Awards in 1974. In the end, father and son go off to war together. It should be a fun show.





We recently were fortunate to receive two notes (Jan & Feb) from the Commander, SGTMAJ and HQ Company personnel assigned to Task Force Iron Eagles of the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade in Kandahar, Afghanistan as a result their receiving MOAS care packages (from previous unit & then addressed to them).

Jan 2016

Hello! Just writing a quick "Thank you" for the package we got from you. (We may not have been the intended target - but it was incredible none the less. We are 4 CAB, 4 ID out of Ft. Carson, CO and are just starting our deployment off. We wanted to send a warm Thank you, as your package was an amazing greeting! It reached us just in time for Christmas, our 1st Holiday away this Deployment. We appreciate all the support back home!

THANK YOU
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

Stay Iron Eagles!
CPL Stiemmer
CPT Wacker
CAPTAIN WHARBY
CPT LEE


There are two ways YOU can assist in our chapter's efforts to get these packages to our troops in harms way.

One - Pick up a box at the luncheon, fill it, mail it, and bring the postal receipt to the following luncheon. We will cover the cost of shipping, and you will be letting our soldiers know we care.


Two - The primary way we have to get the word - and the SOT Care Package Kits - to the Sarasota Community is by distributing the Kits at the Sarasota Memorial Day Parade that will be held on Monday, May 30th.

We are in need of volunteers to help distribute the kits to the local citizenry on the parade route and the Support Our Troops location at the Memorial Day Ceremonial Area.

For additional information go to our website:
<http://www.sarasotamoaa.com/support-us>.



Headquarters
Company
TF Iron Eagle



Feb 2016

Military Officers of Sarasota (MOAS)

Writing another note, to thank you for the awesome (All of them!!) care packages!! I want to say your support means more than you know, but actually I'm sure you do understand what it means!! Thank you so much! Stay Iron Eagles,
SGT Stiemmer

THANK YOU ALL, FOR THE TITANIC AMOUNT OF SUPPORT!
CPT ROB McCONNELL
IRON EAGLE 7

Thank you for all the support!
SPT Wacker

Thank you!
-LT Norberg

Thank you for the fruits!
SPT TAY

Thank you for all of your support!
CPT LEE

Thank you for your support of our Task Force Iron Eagle Soldiers!
COL Lori Robinson
Commander, TF IE.
Thanks for helping us see through this war!
Thank you for your support!
SGT Meigs

Thank you for anything!!
SPT Paul

**Sarasota
Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 30th**

**Volunteers Needed to Distribute
Support Our Troops Kits**

**Contact
John O'Brien
obrienjc@aol.com
or call (941) 907-8891**





MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS

Brian McCarthy



Based on our success at last year's Flag Day event entitled "Celebrating the Stars and Stripes" at which over 2,000 people attended, I'm requesting your support as a Sponsor for two upcoming events honoring our Nation's Flag and local area Veterans during the 2016 season.

"YOU'RE A GRAND OLD FLAG"

6-7:30 pm, Sunday, June 12, 2016

Patriot Plaza, Sarasota National Cemetery

FREE and open to our community on a first-come, first-seated basis, "You're a Grand Old Flag" is a stirring 90-minute concert of patriotic music by The POPS Orchestra of Bradenton and Sarasota and choral selections by Gloria Musicae. A special feature of this event will be formal Flag Retirement and Flag Retreat ceremonies overlooking the impressive features of Patriot Plaza. (anticipated audience: 2,500)

"A TRIBUTE TO AMERICA'S VETERANS"

2:00 pm and 7:30 pm, Sunday, November 13, 2016,
Riverview Performing Arts Center

7:30 pm, Monday, November 14, 2016,
Neel Performing Arts Center

A special USO-type event to honor all local veterans and their families. featuring Las Vegas Bob Hope impersonator, Bill Johnson, the two-hour performance will feature the music, entertainers and celebrities who traveled overseas to entertain deployed American servicemen and women during World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf Wars. Tickets, starting at \$20, will be available on-line at www.thepopsorchestra.org or at the door the evening of the performance; discounted admission for all veterans and family members. (anticipated audience for three events: 2,800)

If you just wish to make a donation, please go to our web site to donate or email me at bnmccarthy@gmail.com.

www.StarsAndStripesCelebration.com
www.sarasotamoaa.com/ss-foundation

Taps

*Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to
the families & friends of*

Paul D. Heyman Col, USAF
Barbara B. Simmons

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

New Member

Holds, Anthony A. (Savannah) LT, USN
2924 Oriole Drive
Sarasota, FL 34243
(941) 783-1418 anthony.holds@nm.com

Macdonald, Thomas J. (Kathleen) CPT, USAR
7529 Weeping Willow Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34241
(941) 343-2120 tjmacdonald@earthlink.net

Faessler, Rene W. (Anna) 1st Lt., Swiss AF
142 Tiziano Way
Nokomis, FL 34275
(727) 612-7873 rene.faessler@bluewin.ch

Directory Changes/Additions

Grubb, William B. (Patricia) Capt, USAFR
3240 Lake Pointe Blvd #231
Sarasota, FL 34231-6950
(941) 371-8783 wbgfla@aol.com

Markham, David F. CPT, USA
3901 71st Street West Lot 24
Bradenton, FL 34209
(941) 524-1358 davidfmarkham@aol.com

Tausch, Geraldine "Gerry"
Heron House
3221 Fruitville Road Suite 217
Sarasota, FL 34237
(941) 203-5529

Lorberg, Martin G III (Anne) CDR, USN
milorberg@outlook.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

"You're A Grand Old Flag"
Sunday, June 12, 2016 @ Patriot Plaza

MOAS will join The POPS Orchestra of Bradenton and Sarasota to celebrate the 239th birthday of our nation's flag on Sunday June 12th. The program will consist of a 90-minute concert of patriotic music by The POPS, choral selections by Gloria Musicae, and a formal Flag Retirement and Retreat Ceremony.

Volunteers are needed to help plan and conduct this event.

If interested and able, please contact LTC (Ret) Tom Piazza at (941) 761-1278 or tepiazze@gmail.com.

MOAS Luncheon
Friday, April 15, 2016
Michael's On East



MENU

SERVED LUNCHEON

*Tossed Caesar Style Salad
 with Shaved Parmesan*

Signature Bread Basket

ENTREE

*Ginger orange grilled salmon
 topped with zest of lemon, lime
 & oranges*

*Roasted red skinned potatoes
 with extra virgin olive oil & rosemary,
 Roasted Asparagus
 & Roasted Sweet Peppers*

SERVED DESSERT

*Derby Pie: Like a Chocolate Chip Cookie
 Baked in a Pie,
 Plus Walnuts & Hints of Kentucky
 Bourbon, with Vanilla Ice Cream*

Served Coffee, Decaf & Tea

MOAS LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

For 4/15/2016 at 11:30 AM

Michael's On East

DRESS: Coat (Tie Optional)

Please reserve _____ places for the Luncheon
 A check for \$ _____ is enclosed based on **\$27.00**
 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? _____

Please return the above form with check made out to

MOAS

Mail to:

Elke Scott

**841 Forestview Court
 Sarasota FL 34232-2455
 Elke's Phone # 379-3023**

NOTICE:

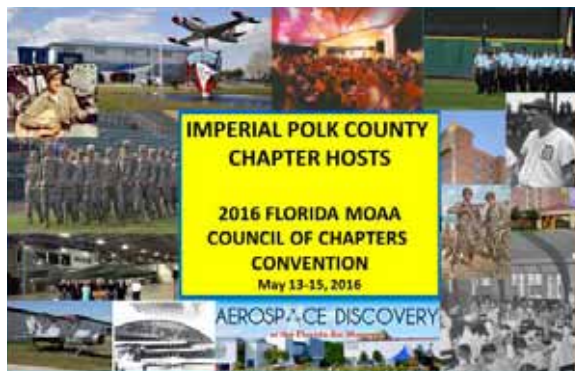
We must provide the restaurant with an exact number of reservations at least 48 hours in advance of event. No additional requests or refunds will be honored after that time.

Requests 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.

Make Your Convention Reservations NOW!

Lakeland, FL

May 13-15



[http://moaaf1.org/Convention/Documents/2016/Convention%20Overview Registration Timetable Maps.pdf](http://moaaf1.org/Convention/Documents/2016/Convention%20Overview%20Registration%20Timetable%20Maps.pdf)



MEET & GREET

Friday, April 8th, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Sarasota MOAA has a monthly
Happy Hour/Meet & Greet/Officer's Call
 on the

second Friday of each month from 5pm to 7pm

Our Happy Hour re-creates the camaraderie we enjoyed at the O' Club back when we were on active duty. We'll have a few drinks and swap some stories. Members and prospective members can get to know each other in an informal setting.

**We hope you can make the next Meet & Greet
 at the Sarasota Vineyard**

**downtown Sarasota at 1528 Main Street
 between Lemon Ave & Orange Ave**

 CALENDAR 		
APRIL - MAY 2016		
DATE	EVENT	TIME
Mar 29, Tuesday	Tribute to Vietnam Veterans - Patriot Plaza - Details Page 12	5:00 p.m.
April 4, Monday	MOAS Board Meeting - Meadows Community Center	4:00 p.m.
April 8, Friday	Meet & Greet - Sarasota Vineyard - Details Page 11	5:00 p.m.
April 15, Friday	Luncheon -Michaels on East- Lisa Goldstein- Elder Care Att'ny	11:30 a.m.
Apr 14 - 16 Th-Sat	VPA: Spring Musical - Pippin - Details Page 8	4:00 p.m.
May 2, Monday	MOAS Board Meeting - Meadows Community Center	4:00 p.m.
May 2, Monday	4th Annual JFCS Tribute to Veterans - Michaels on East	11:30 a.m.
May 7, Saturday	YAHOO: Kentucky Derby Day Party - Details Page 8	7:00 p.m.
May 13, Friday	Meet & Greet - Sarasota Vineyard - Details Page 11	5:00 p.m.
May 20, Friday	Luncheon - Michaels on East - Scholarships - Bill Church	11:30 a.m.

Military Officers Association of Sarasota, INC. P.O. Box 1016, Sarasota, FL 34230-1016

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Membership Dues: Regular Auxiliary Associate

*Mail registration with your check for \$35, made payable to MOAS.
If email is unavailable, newsletters may be sent by UPS - Add \$12*

Last Name	First Name	MI	Rank	Spouse Name
Street Address (Include Apt#)	City		State	Zip Code
Home Phone	E-Mail Address		Birthday mm/dd/yy	
Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Active <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Former Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <input type="checkbox"/> Surviving Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign	Country			
Service Component: <input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Corps <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> NOAA <input type="checkbox"/> USPHS <input type="checkbox"/> National Guard				
<input type="checkbox"/> Please do not publish my personal information in the Directory	Who told you about the Association? _____			
Signature	Date	National MOAA Member Number		



At 5:00 PM on March 29, 2016, a **Commemoration Ceremony of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War** will be held at Patriot Plaza located at the Sarasota National Cemetery (State Rd 72 - Clark Road, approximately 4 miles East of I-75). This Commemoration event, sponsored by the Sarasota National Cemetery and the Sarasota County Veterans Commission, recognizes all who served in the uniformed services from November 1, 1955 through May 15, 1975 irrespective of the fact that they may not have physically served in Vietnam.

The Vietnam 50th Commemoration is designed to assist a grateful nation in thanking and honoring our Vietnam Veterans and their families. The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. Sarasota County has been recognized by the DoD as a "Commemorative Partner" and this ceremony is part of the nationwide commemorative program.

The theme for the evening is: "America Thanks You!" This musical and patriotic one-hour program will thank, and present Vietnam War Veterans Pins to all Vietnam era Veterans who have not previously been presented a personal pin. Pins will also be presented to families of Vietnam Veterans who are deceased or unable to attend the ceremony. The program will include music provided by members of the First Brass, Presentation of the Colors by members of the Sarasota Military Academy, Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, Welcome remarks by a Sarasota County Commissioner, Guest Speaker comments by Colonel (Ret) Ben Knisely, a Vietnam War Medevac pilot, the Pinning Ceremony, and a Formal Retreat Ceremony. All persons who wish to share in the Commemoration are invited to attend.

Information Contact: BG James M. Hesson USA (Ret) – bjhesson@verizon.net – (941) 926-8702

Receive the Breeze in color via email or view it on our [website www.sarasotamoaa.com](http://www.sarasotamoaa.com) or [blog http://sarasotamoaa.us](http://sarasotamoaa.us)