

# 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

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Best Newsletter 2007 & 2010; 1st Runner Up 2008, 2012 - 2014; 2nd Runner Up 2009

May 2016

### APRIL PROGRAM: **Attorney Lisa Goldstein: "The VA and Medicaid Tsunami; Change is Coming"** *by Perry Korszen*

Elder Law Attorney Lisa Goldstein, in a very detailed presentation at our April luncheon, informed the membership about many important details for obtaining both VA and Medicaid benefits when long term care is needed. Nationwide, about half of all Americans will spend time in a nursing home and the average annual cost is now \$113,121, which makes planning for such an event imperative.



Lisa used a scenario in which a married couple requires Alzheimer's care for one of the partners, and wants to prevent spending down all of their savings to illustrate the imperative of prior planning to preclude the possibility of not being able to use our VA and Medicaid benefit eligibility to the fullest. She described several planning techniques that would allow the couple to take advantage of the VA and Medicaid benefits they are entitled to without exhausting their lifetime savings and giving up their residence.

Eligibility for VA and Medicaid benefits are quite different, and to complicate matters further, the government is considering changes that may take effect next year. This reinforced her main point that consulting a lawyer familiar with these complications is highly recommended.

Lisa Goldstein's practice is devoted to Medicaid Planning, Veteran's Benefits Planning, wills, trusts, long term care planning, estate planning, and is accredited by the Veteran's Administration. She extended an invitation to the membership to contact her with questions about long term care planning and can be reached at [Lisa@LKGLawPA.com](mailto:Lisa@LKGLawPA.com) or (561) 267-2207. Although located on the other coast in Palm Beach, Lisa is in Sarasota on a monthly basis.

### MAY PROGRAM: **Scholarships Awards; Bill Church, Executive Editor Herald Tribune**

*by Perry Korszen*

May is traditionally when MOAS awards some well-deserved scholarships to Sarasota area high school students, and this year is no exception. This spring we will be awarding two JROTC and five Merit Scholarships.

To help us provide a message of community, our luncheon speaker is Bill Church, Executive Editor of the Sarasota Herald-Tribune newspaper. He is also the Southeast Regional Editor at GateHouse Media, and in this role, he works with GateHouse Media newspapers throughout the Southeast on shared coverage, recruiting & training, and coordinating investigative news projects, college sports, and political coverage. Additionally, he works with executives at the GateHouse Media Center for News & Design in Austin, TX on national recruiting and company-wide content initiatives.

Bill Church joined the Herald-Tribune in January 2013, after spending almost 23 years in editorial positions at Gannett newspapers in Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, New York and Oregon. He spent six-plus years as Executive Editor of the Statesman Journal in Salem, OR prior to coming to Sarasota. Both the Sarasota Herald-Tribune and Salem Statesman Journal have won numerous national awards during his tenure.

He has been active nationally in the journalism field. He was named a McCormick Fellow in 2006, elected to the APME national board in 2011 and has been a longtime member of the Asian Americans Journalists Association. In 2010, he received the national Robert G. McGruder Diversity Leadership award.

Bill earned a bachelor's degree with distinction in economics from the University of Oklahoma, and studied economics at Northwestern University before completing a master's degree in administration from Central Michigan University. He has taught marketing for Portland State University and mass media for the University of Phoenix.

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**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

**Board Staff**

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 Piazze	761-1278
Historian	George Tracy	907-9865
Awards Board	Jonathan Gordon	923-2302

**Membership Committee**

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

**Scholarship 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
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 Piazze	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 <a href="mailto:obrienjc@aol.com">obrienjc@aol.com</a>	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

**Newsletter Operations, Sarasota Breeze**

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**Editorial Policy:** "The Breeze" newsletter is published by the Military Officers Association of Sarasota, Inc., an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and the Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan."

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*George Tracy*

It was an honor to attend the March 29<sup>th</sup> Tribute to Vietnam Veterans at Patriot Plaza, featuring moving presentations by MOAS members, **BG Jim Hesson** and **COL Ben Knisely**, who each then personally shook hands and presented Vietnam Commemorative pins to hundreds of deserving Vietnam Era Veterans and Family members. Thanks for your compassion, commitment and leadership of the 50<sup>th</sup> Commemoration tribute to Vietnam Veterans and their families. **Bravo Zulu!!**

On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Kay and I had the pleasure of attending the 2016 Academic Olympics Finals competition with **Pat McLain**, MOAS Academic Olympics Awards Chair. This Sarasota County competition featured the top four high schools in four very challenging match-ups, ultimately crowning **Pine View as the winner**. Jennifer Vigne, Executive Director, Sarasota County Education Foundation, recognized and thanked Pat and MOAS for our important sponsorship and awards for this program. Congratulations Pine View! Thanks, Pat!!

I was honored to announce and congratulate our long-time MOAS Allied member, Gudrun Graugaard, Lieutenant, Royal Danish Navy, for having recently taken her oath of citizenship, becoming a Citizen of the United States of America, in time to join us in our Pledge of Allegiance at the April luncheon. Thanks Russ Wilshire for alerting me to this incredible milestone! **Congratulations, Gudrun!!**

Please check our **calendar** on the back page for important upcoming events and try to attend and support whatever events you can:

**Reminder:** Visit our newly designed MOAS web site at [www.sarasotamoaa.com](http://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 Lisa Goldstein's presentation in April, which further reinforced the fact that too many of us are missing out on important **Veterans and Surviving Spouse benefit opportunities that are available but inaccessible due to lack of knowledge and/or assistance**. Aside from following up directly with Lisa, which is an option, I visited her website, <http://www.lkglawpa.com/attorney-profile/>, and retrieved her two e-Books that address what she presented to us. I, as you, start with a do-it-yourself approach, now better informed by Lisa's guidance. Don't just sit there, Do Something.

I thank **Peggy Mock**, our Surviving Spouse Liaison, for her efforts to assemble donors and sponsors for the Flag Day event on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Peggy has established her donation in memory of her late husband, Maj George D. Mock, USMC, and has volunteered to assist any surviving spouse, who wishes to do the same ([peggymock@michaelsaunders.com](mailto:peggymock@michaelsaunders.com); 941-356-3584).

We have completed our 2016 Membership Renewal Campaign with a current active membership of 325 including 11 new members since Jan 1<sup>st</sup> and with several more in process. We are committed to recruiting 40 new members by years-end! **Thank You for your great support!!**

Thanks to all who attended our April luncheon, to our Luncheon Support Team, and to our enthusiastic, motivating and informative speaker, Lisa Goldstein.

Remember and live by our MOAA mantras, **"Never Stop Serving!"** and **"Take Action!"**

**Thank you all for your support of our MOAS 2016 Team and your donations to our 2016 Scholarship Program!!**  
**Enjoy your escape from snow and ice!!**



**SECRETARY'S CORNER**

*George Tracy*

President George Tracy called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM on Monday April 4, 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, Jim Hesson & Len Friedlander

**BOARD MEETINGS AND LUNCHEONS**

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

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President encouraged all to refer to the *Military Officer* for mail-in cards – Take Action!! Kay and he attended the 2016 Academic Olympics Finals competition on April 2<sup>nd</sup> with Pat McLain, MOAS Awards Chair for the program. The Executive Director, Jennifer Vigne, recognized and thanked Pat and MOAS for our support of this program. John Rosentrater, Sarasota National Cemetery Director, approved and forwarded our request to conduct our Flag Day event at Patriot Plaza on 12 June. Tom Piazza continues to organize and activate volunteer and donor/sponsor resources to prepare for this free event and for the funding events in November. In spite of very threatening weather, MOAS members, Jim Hesson and Ben Knisely, joined the Sarasota County Veterans Commission President, Ted Smith, in an impressive and moving Tribute to Vietnam Veterans and their Families at Patriot Plaza. Great news coverage and many, well-deserved pins (1200+) passed out personally by Jim and Ben. Bravo Zulu!! Planning is in process by a Stars & Stripes Foundation funding team made up of MOAS and POPS Orchestra of Sarasota and Bradenton volunteers, organized and led by Tom Piazza. They need more volunteers! If you or someone you know or an organization you know might be able and willing to help! Please tell Tom!! Confirm your MOAS web site account set up and give us your feedback for process improvement!! It's getting better!! George expressed his appreciation for everyone's effort to work the MOAS Renewal phone lists. At this writing we are down to 24 non-respondents, having recently received 41 membership payments and 2 resignations. Non-respondents will go into a Lapsed status and removed from the MOAS Web Site & Breeze rosters. We will focus on recruiting for the remainder of 2016. Please continue your individual recruiting efforts!

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** The Mar 7, 2016 Board meeting minutes were unanimously approved with minor corrections.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer renewed the bulk mail fee registration and added \$100 to the postal account, so we can mail the member directory. The Board unanimously approved donating \$100 to the SE Guide Dogs. The Treasurer reported the following balances as of March 31, 2016 and the report was approved unanimously.

<b>MOAS Operating Account</b>		<b>\$30,736.68</b>
Operating Fund	\$ 27,511.15	
LoV Flag initiative	\$ 3,225.53	
<b>Scholarship Fund Account</b>		<b>\$41,396.65</b>
Undesignated Scholarship Fund	\$19,195.94	
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	\$ 4,200.71

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Scheduled Events (Elke Scott):** The March Luncheon paid attendance was 76, with a profit of \$65.50; the 50/50 was \$93 plus \$12 to SOT.

**Newsletter (Len Friedlander):** The March Breeze was emailed to 344 recipients, & 100 copies mailed to members. The 2016 Directory was discussed and it was agreed that much of the previous directory content is now available or can be posted on our web site and need not be duplicated in the printed directory. However, the following information will be in the Directory: Calendar; Important phone numbers & emails; ID card locations and operating hours; & TRICARE contact information..

**Scholarships (Claire Power):** We received 17 applications for the seven \$2,000 scholarships we will be awarding (includes the \$2,000 Schmidt Scholarship). Suncoast Technical College awarded four \$250.00 scholarships, from the SMOSF Veterans scholarship to veteran students to pay for a fire-fighting course not covered by their VA benefits.

**Programs: (Perry Korszen):**

LUNCHEON PROGRAMS	
APRIL	Lisa Goldstein - Elder Care Attorney
MAY	Scholarships - Bill Church - Editor, Herald Tribune
JUNE	Olivia Swan - Irish Harpist and singer

**Membership (Brian McCarthy):** FCOC commented that our chapter has impressive new member numbers, but our retention losses are a challenging offset to our recruiting successes. MOAS membership has dropped since the beginning of the year from 356 to 326, including all known attrition in the 2016 renewal process and 11 new members.

MOAS	2015	1/1/2016	3/31/2016
REGULAR	278	278	253
SURVIVING SPOUSES	74	74	69
ALLIED	4	4	4
TOTAL	356	356	326

**Support Our Troops (John O'Brien):** Currently 400 boxes ready for the May 30 parade with another 750 boxes in preparation. John emphasized that the soldiers really appreciate the SOT boxes that are being sent. Jim Hesson advised he will be phasing out of SOT activities next year and will be removed from the web site. John O'Brien is looking for an army officer who is familiar with the organizational structure of the army to assist him in the logistics and presentation end of the program.

**YAHOO (John O'Brien):** Staley's are hosting a Kentucky Derby event supporting SOT May 7<sup>th</sup>, & a Beach Party & Oktoberfest being planned.

**Academic Olympics (Pat McLain):** Pat reported that the Academic Olympics finals at STC, Sat April 2<sup>nd</sup> went well with Pine View winning once again.

**NEW BUSINESS: Flag Initiative (Brian McCarthy):** Reported that the Flag Day and Veteran's Day concerts were moving forward as planned. Foundation has received approximately \$8,000 in sponsor donations. Postcard flyers will be passed out at the Memorial Day parade with SOT boxes. Sponsorship are greatly appreciated and the Stars & Stripes Foundation is looking for a more robust membership involvement.

**Important MOAA-FCOC Dates:**

- 2 May 2016 – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual JFCS Tribute to Veterans – Len Friedlander
- 13 May 2016 – FCOC Annual Convention –
- 30 May 2016 – Memorial Day Parade – SOT Box Distribution
- 12 June 2016 – "YOU'RE A GRAND OLD FLAG" – Patriot Plaza – 6-7:30PM

**NEXT MEETING:** Meeting was adjourned at 5:35PM. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 4:00PM on Monday May 2, 2016 at the Meadows Community Center.



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

*Len Friedlander*

### **Military Records/DD-214 Available Online**

It's official! DD-214s are NOW Online. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214s online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov> or <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>. This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files.

Veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information should be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time.

### **MOAA Urges Commission To Protect Veterans' Health Care**

A flurry of media reports hit the airwaves this week over a controversial proposal being considered by a special commission set up by Congress to look at how to deliver veterans' health care. The **Commission on Care** is tasked with examining access to VA health care and to examine strategically how best to organize the Veterans Health Administration for the next generation of veterans.

**The "strawman" document calls for phasing out all VA health care treatment facilities over the next 20 years, and pushing all veterans, including those who are 100% disabled, into the private sector for medical care.**

MOAA President Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, in a letter to the commissioners, stressed the need to preserve, but also improve, the VA health system. "We are concerned that migrating the current system to community-based services...would eliminate some of the best aspects of VA care, such as spinal and polytrauma care, and could produce unintended consequences, such as a reduction in benefits and/or negative health care outcomes." MOAA urged the Commission to consider incorporating VA Secretary Bob McDonald's MyVA reform efforts, and plan for consolidating community care efforts.

MOAA also believes the Independent Budget's (IB) veteran's service organization concept, a *Framework for Veterans Health Care Reform*, should be seriously considered. The IB recommends moving away from arbitrary federal access standards towards a clinically-based decision made between a veteran (to include family and caregivers) and a health care professional, offering the potential for simplifying eligibility requirements and expanding access. MOAA believes the IB provides an excellent framework for what a veterans' health care

system should look like.

MOAA will join other veteran and military service organizations to meet with the commissioners on April 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss in more detail the Commission's work and potential recommendations for their final report, which is due out in June.

### **UCMJ Update Proposed**

For the first time in 30 years, the Pentagon has proposed changes to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), which encompasses procedural and substantive criminal laws for the military. A lot of attention was drawn to the procedural aspects of the code as a result of military sexual assault incidents, and then-SECDEF Hagel directed a full review in 2013.

After a two-year review, DoD has proposed a number of changes:

**Publicly Accessible Court Documents** - DoD would make filed court documents publicly available and easily accessible. Currently they are only available under the Freedom of Information Act.

**Individualized Criminal Statutes** - Many criminal offenses currently fall under one broad article. DoD proposes breaking them out into separate articles to better distinguish crimes and "ensure each offense receives separate consideration."

**Stronger Sentencing Guidelines** - DoD proposes sentencing guidelines established by the Department of Justice in all non-capital trials. For most military crimes under the UCMJ there are no minimum or maximum sentences, leading to considerable variance in sentencing for similar offenses.

**Right to Appeal** - Judicial review is not currently a right in all cases for convicted service members under the UCMJ.

MOAA supports the Pentagon's proposals to better align UCMJ practices with current judicial standards. It will still be up to Congress to enact the proposed changes.

### **MOAA Storms The Hill**

MOAA council and chapter presidents from across the United States, accompanied by members of the national board of directors and headquarters staff, plus members of MOAA's Currently Serving Advisory Council, Currently Serving Spouse Advisory Council, and Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee stormed Capitol Hill on April 13<sup>th</sup> and visited nearly all 535 senators and representatives in support of key legislative priorities.

MOAA 'stormers' urged their elected officials to:

- Reject disproportional TRICARE fee hikes
- Eliminate the SBP-DIC Offset

MOAA members sent nearly 15,000 messages to Capitol Hill, and many legislators and staffers referenced the messages during their meetings with the MOAA 'stormers'.

The daylong event culminated with a dinner for MOAA Council and Chapter leaders and their spouses, featuring keynote speaker Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.), chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, who has been a longtime advocate for survivors, and is the sponsor of legislation to repeal the SBP-DIC offset. Wilson praised MOAA's 'Storming the Hill' activities, including the push to eliminate the SBP-DIC offset. "I've been working on this issue since I was elected 15 years ago, and I feel like I've been spinning my wheels - until today. The information you gave me was the clearest [I've ever received on the matter]."

Retired Air Force Gen. Charles Robertson, chairman of MOAA's board of directors, thanked the 'stormers'.

To learn more about this year's 'Storming the Hill' events, check out: <http://www.moaa.org/storming/>



**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

*Charles Caudill*

**Good Days, Bad Days**

I am recuperating from one of the worst allergy seasons I have experienced in a long time. Shortness of breath, lack of sleep, stuffiness and sinus pain have made my life miserable. Sarasota's pollen count feels like it's off the charts. I became so negative that I wondered how to turn this experience into something positive. I got the answer when I finally looked at my Azaleas, Roses and trees in full bloom. The glory of God's creation isn't possible without the pollen.

All of us have gone through experiences that were unpleasant or worse, but looking back through our life's journey we reflect that these negatives helped us grow.

Watching my twins learning to walk is a good example of pain before gain. At first they kept falling down, and a few times bloodied their noses; but soon they got their balance and started walking unassisted.

My parents made it known to my siblings and me that we were expected to go to college, but they couldn't afford to send us so we had to go to work to earn the money. The summer before going to college I worked seven days a week. I drove dump trucks Monday through Friday, and worked at a filling station on weekends. During college I continued working by washing dishes, loading trucks and directing a choir. Since I was paying for my own education, I finished in three years.

Our military careers have given us many

opportunities for growth. One of my deflating educational experiences happened when I worked for Air Training Command Headquarters. I was given an important task and thinking my plans were great took them to my supervisor. He looked them over and said, "Go back to the drawing board." This happened three times and finally he told me they were all right. I asked him to please say they were great, give me a star, shake my hand or even buy my lunch; but he just smiled. He became one of my biggest role models, because he always wanted excellence and he pulled me from mediocrity to where I could excel.

When I became the Chaplain at the Virginia Military Institute I also tried to encourage the cadets, and when they graduated I gave each one a Bible to take into their future careers. Before the Bible presentation, I would look at the cadet's picture and write in his Bible a personal note of encouragement and this scripture from Luke 22:32: "I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail; and when you have turned again, strengthen your brethren."

As we age we can allow negative situations to influence our emotions and our lifestyles, but we must not remain there. The only thing that encourages me to look for the positive is my faith: and to know that everything works for good to those that love God. Therefore, I share with you the first great commandment.

*"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." Deuteronomy 6: 4-7*



**ACADEMIC OLYMPICS**

*Pat McLain*

Well, the last day of the Academic Olympics had arrived, and George & Kay Tracy joined me for the day of competition. The first semi-final match between Cardinal Mooney & Riverview resulted in Riverview the victor 146-134. Pine View won their semi-final match over Venice, 182-137.

After a lunch of pizza, cookies and sodas, and time for George to meet and talk with several people, it was time for the final matches. The first match between Cardinal Mooney and Venice to determine third place went to Cardinal Mooney 138 - 125. The final match ended with Pine View taking First Place over Riverview by a score of 169 - 145.

E d u c a t i o n Foundation Executive Director, Jennifer Vigne then presented the affectionately called "Culture Vulture" trophy to Pine View to take home again., and monetary awards to the Most Valuable Players from each school, and the MOAS computer bags were presented to each of the participating schools.

All in all, a good Academic Olympic season.



**50th COMMEMORATION  
of the VIETNAM WAR**

About 1,400 Vietnam veterans gathered at Patriot Plaza on the grounds of the Sarasota National Cemetery to participate in the Vietnam War 50th Commemoration program on March 29<sup>th</sup> and receive a Vietnam War Veterans pin to commemorate their service. Engraved on the back of each pin, which features an eagle's head framed by stars and stripes on the front, is a simple message: "A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You."



We offer our thanks to the MOAS members who organized and participated in conducting the program; BG Jim Hesson, USA (Ret); COL Ben Knisely, USA (Ret), and Col Charles Caudill, USAF (Ret).

# April Luncheon Photos



Sara Little (l) & Barbara Shaver flank their guests Carl Denney & Winnie Downes



Jon & Sharon Duffy and Doris McArdle



Xenia Monaghan & daughter Sheila



President George Tracy presents speaker Lisa Goldstein with a token of appreciation



John & Elaine Guthrie



Jon O'Brien (l) & Jon Gordon



Ilene & Paul O'Connell



Michael Clay (l) & Tom Badger



**Lisa Goldstein (I),  
Perry Korszen & Jessica Barroso**



**Jorgen & Gudrun Graugaard  
Gudrun recently became a United States Citizen**



**Vic & Nancy Reiling**



**Troy Scott (I) and Margarete & Russ  
Wiltshire**



**Lynn Gould and Dana King**



**George Hofmann (I) & Perry Korszen**



**Tom & Pauline Mazzone and Sylvia Barber**



**Wilhelmina & Arne Ellermets**



**YAHOO**  
**Young at Heart Officers Organization**  
*John O'Brien*

Planning is underway by Brian and Valerie McCarthy for a beach party at Siesta Key in either June or July. Last year we planned a Siesta Beach party on a Tuesday and we wound up competing with hundreds of kids and parents participating in a Summer Fun Run. We will ensure we avoid it when planning our beach party. The YAHOOs are also projecting an Oktoberfest in the fall.

**Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 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.

**Riverview JROTC Visits DC**

On March 16<sup>th</sup> forty-seven (47) Riverview High School JROTC cadets, along with Senior Army Instructor SGM Roger Mitchell, 1SG Garcia, SSG Herrera, Booster President Mrs. Monroe, and four parent chaperones boarded two buses for a four day trip to Washington D.C.

The cadets had a busy two days in DC: visiting the Lincoln & Washington Monuments; the WWII, Korean, Vietnam & US Air Force Memorials; the Smithsonian Air & Space and Natural Science



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 1<sup>st</sup>. [staleycp8181@yahoo.com](mailto:staleycp8181@yahoo.com) or (941) 752-4086.

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

Museums; the National Navy Museum in the Navy Yard; and Arlington Cemetery.

At Arlington, the cadets viewed the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns; visited with the guards and the Drill Platoon; and were briefed at the Caisson Barn (59 horses and the caissons used for burials). One cadet's Grandparents are resting in Arlington, and the Escort Officer took the cadet to their grave markers.

MOAS was privileged to donate \$1,000 to support this Riverview JROTC trip, enhancing the cadets' knowledge of our national heritage.



**VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS**  
**@ Booker High School**  
*Pat McLain*

- 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**

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

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

**Contact John O'Brien**  
[obrienjc@aol.com](mailto:obrienjc@aol.com)  
or (941) 907-8891





## SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

*John O'Brien*

We currently have 400 US Postal Service (USPS) boxes ready for distribution at the Memorial Day parade (May 30<sup>th</sup>) with another 750 USPS boxes in our garage. We will still need several hundred more boxes to be prepared for the Stars and Stripes Celebration on June 12<sup>th</sup> and requests for additional boxes after both of the events. We have copied all the necessary paperwork at Staples and Carol is busy collating the paper work and assembling SOT packets to attach to the boxes.



We need volunteers to distribute the SOT boxes during the Memorial Day parade. We have been able to move our position in the parade ahead of the motorcycle participants, and this should eliminate running to catch up as was necessary in the last parade. We will try to get assistance in distributing the SOT kits from Riverview HS and SMA JROTC Cadets.

As noted in the last Breeze, the soldiers really appreciate the SOT boxes that are being sent. Their letters to us thank us for supporting them and they know we honor their service to keep us safe.

Military Officers Association - MAR 2016

Sending a huge "thank you" again!!  
The support we get from you is amazing, and much appreciated!  
We are so grateful for you!!  
Stay Iron Eagle,  
SGT Stemmer

We absolutely love the gifts! We will always be grateful for what you have done in support of our Soldiers!  
-MAY Cabán

Thank-you for your continual support of Task Force Iron Eagle during this deployment. Your generosity is truly appreciated!  
COL Lori Robinson  
Commander, TF Iron Eagle

THANKS AGAIN!  
You guys are GREAT.  
Csm Rob McLaughlin  
IRON EAGLE 7  
Thank you for all your support, your pictures brighten our days!  
Chub Cali

Thank you for your support  
SPC Paul  
We appreciate all the support! Thank You!  
-CPT Lewis

Thank you for Everything @ Sgt Ortiz

**A Tribute to Veterans**  
Service to Community Awards

Honoring individuals in our community who  
Inspire Patriotism  
Provide Service to Others  
Offer Hope to Veterans

**AWARD RECIPIENTS**

<b>Leonard Friedlander</b> COL, USAF (Ret.) Military Officers Association of Sarasota	<b>Christopher Keilty</b> SPEC 5, US Army VFW Post 3233	<b>Ben Krisely</b> COL, US Army (Ret.) Sarasota County Veterans Commission
<b>Harold Ronson</b> SC/S2, US Navy The Friendship Centers	<b>Ellwood "Woody" Schiffman</b> SPEC 5, US Army Sarasota County Veterans Commission, Sarasota National Cemetery Support Committee, Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent FL 17	<b>Thomas A. Smith</b> CAPT, USMC Sarasota County Veterans Commission

**Monday, May 2, 2016 • 12:00 p.m. • MICHAEL'S ON EAST**  
For tickets contact Monica Caldwell,  
JFCS Development Director at 941-366-2224, ext. 142 • [mcaldwell@JFCS-Cares.org](mailto:mcaldwell@JFCS-Cares.org)

Reservations should be received no later than April 22, 2016  
JFCS, 2688 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34237

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée Selection: Please indicate entrée selection for all attendees  
 Salisbury Steak  
 Michael's On East Chopped Salad with Grilled Salmon

Luncheon ticket: \$45 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Patron ticket: \$100 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Table sponsor: \$1,000 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reserved table of eight and listing in program book

I cannot attend, however, would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support the Operation Military Assistance Program at JFCS.  
 Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check one:  
 VISA     MASTERCARD     DISCOVER     AMEX

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3 or 4 digit code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Checks should be made payable to: JFCS



## MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS

*Brian McCarthy*

I was reading this week about the current DOD recruiting challenge. Only 1 in 4 youths are qualified for military service due to: drug use, obesity, medically unfit, failure to graduate high school, or criminal records. Only 1% of those qualified have an interest in joining the military. Of the 200,000 that join the military each year, 80,000 do not complete their first enlistment. Of the remaining 120,000, only 30,000 extend for a second. The cost to recruit a sailor, marine, soldier or airman is \$35,000, and that doesn't include training costs! Now that's a challenge!



We too have an annual challenge to sustain our membership base, and hopefully expand. We estimate there are over 14,000 officers in Sarasota and Manatee counties alone, and over 70,000 veterans. Our Chapter is having a large impact on our community with initiatives such as Support Our Troops, Flag Day and Veterans Day performances with the Pops Orchestra, the Flag Initiative in our elementary schools and our high school and veterans scholarship program... just to name a few.

Statistically 29% of our members are actively engaged in the Chapter's efforts and 71% are members who come to our luncheons but are not actively engaged in our other activities. I am challenging every member to become engaged! This can be anything; recruiting a friend into the chapter, becoming a Stars & Stripes Foundation sponsor or volunteering your time for a committee like YAHOO or joining the leadership team. *All are sincerely welcome.*

If you have no time for anything else, sign in to the MOAA website and TAKE ACTION on a MOAA legislative initiative... it takes less than 30 seconds.

*Our call to action – never stop serving!*

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES New Member

**Stuart, Charles L. (Carol) CAPT, USN**  
4462 Streamside Court  
Sarasota, FL 34238  
(941) 544-4507 [cistuart56@hotmail.com](mailto:cistuart56@hotmail.com)

**Caswell, Dana M. LCDR, USCG**  
4636 Hidden Forest Drive  
Sarasota, FL 34235  
(813) 362-7885 [dmcaswell@hotmail.com](mailto:dmcaswell@hotmail.com)

**Suskovic, Jolee**

**Kiebitz, Robert E. 2d Lt, USAF**  
1232 Point Crisp Rd  
Sarasota, FL 34242  
[bobkieb@comcast.net](mailto:bobkieb@comcast.net)

**Coppens, Mark (Jamie Murdick) CPT, USA**  
331 Bob White Way  
Sarasota, FL 34236  
(571) 439-9775 [coppensmark@hotmail.com](mailto:coppensmark@hotmail.com)

## Directory Changes/Additions

**Cerny, Evelyn E**  
227 Pensacola Road  
Venice, FL 34285-2327  
(941) 486-5389 [cernyevelyn@comcast.net](mailto:cernyevelyn@comcast.net)

## Taps

*Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to  
the family & friends of  
Charles L. Neff, Colonel, USAF*



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

(L-R) Larry Lovell,  
John O'Brien,  
Tom Mazzone,  
Sylvia Barber,  
Bettye Sarjeant,  
Sara Little,  
John Guthrie

**MOAS Luncheon  
Friday, May 20, 2016  
Michael's On East**



**MENU**

**SERVED LUNCHEON**

*Corn Bisque with Red Bell Pepper*

*Signature Bread Basket*

**ENTREE**

*Parmesan Crusted  
Boneless Breast of Chicken  
Topped with Spiced Tomato Compote  
Artisanal Sardinian Fregola, Haricot  
Verts & Baby Carrots*

**SERVED DESSERT**

*Crème Brulee:  
Silky Vanilla Bean Custard  
& a Thin Burnt Sugar Shell,  
Topped with Fresh Berries*

*Served Coffee, Decaf & Tea*

**MOAS LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS**

**For 5/20/2016 at 11:30 AM**

**Michael's On East**

**DRESS: Coat (Tie Optional)**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the Luncheon **and**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **additional places for students/parents.**

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? \_\_\_\_\_



**MEET & GREET**

**Friday, May 13th, 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**

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.

 <b>CALENDAR</b> 		
MAY - JUNE 2016		
DATE	EVENT	TIME
May 2, Monday	4th Annual JFCS Tribute to Veterans - Michaels on East - Details Page 9	11:30 a.m.
May 2, Monday	MOAS Board Meeting - Meadows Community Center	4:00 p.m.
May 7, Saturday	YAHOO: Kentucky Derby Party - SOT Fundraiser - 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.
May 30, Monday	Memorial Day Parade - Sarasota - SOT Boxes - Details Page 8	9:00 a.m.
June 6, Monday	MOAS Board Meeting - Meadows Community Center	4:00 p.m..
June 10, Friday	Meet & Greet - Sarasota Vineyard - Details Page 11	5:00 p.m.
June 12, Friday	"You're A Grand Old Flag" - Patriot Plaza	6:00 p.m.
June 17, Friday	Luncheon - Michaels on East - Olivia Swan - Irish Harpist	11:30 a.m.

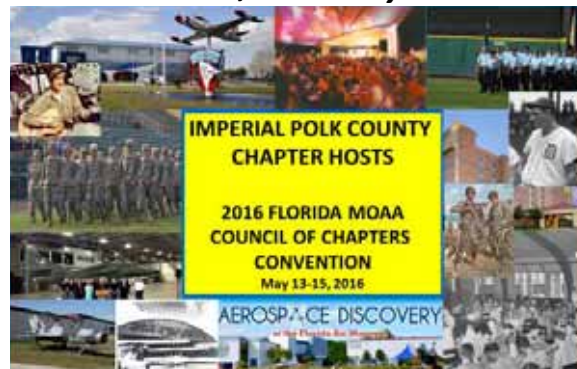
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
**"You're A Grand Old Flag"**  
**Sunday, June 12, 2016 @ Patriot Plaza**

MOAS will join The POPS Orchestra of Bradenton and Sarasota to celebrate the 239<sup>th</sup> birthday of our nation's flag on Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:tepiazze@gmail.com).

**Make Your Convention Reservations NOW!**  
**Lakeland, FL May 13-15**



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

**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:  Active  Retired  Former Officer  Regular  Reserve  Surviving Spouse  Foreign \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_  
 Service Component:  Army  Navy  Air Force  Marine Corps  Coast Guard  NOAA  USPHS  National Guard  
 Please do not publish my personal information in the Directory Who told you about the Association? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ National MOAA Member Number \_\_\_\_\_