

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; Runner Up 2008, 2009, 2012 - 2014; 5 Star Newsletter 2015

MARCH PROGRAM: Dr. Davis Zonies - "40 Years from Einstein to the Bomb"

by Perry Korszen

Dr. Zonies presented the subject of atomic bombs with enlightening speech and explosive enthusiasm. The audience walked away with a thorough understanding of the development of the bomb, the mechanics of its design, and the historical events that led to its use.

The chain of events that led to the most extensive and expensive weapons program (at that time) fielded by the U.S. started with a theory by Albert Einstein, $E=MC^2$. After Einstein informed President Roosevelt of the likelihood of the Germans developing such a device, the *Manhattan Project* was born. Dr. Zonies explained the mechanics of both atomic bombs that were dropped on Japan along with the herculean costs and manpower needed to build them.

Dr. Zonies concluded with an explanation of the historical background that led to the use of the bombs. The number of American troops killed in battle was increasing exponentially as they got closer to the Japanese mainland. It became clear that the alternative to using the Atom bomb would be a staggering number of dead American service members. The presentation closed with pictures of the remarkable recovery of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the two cities that were destroyed by A-Bombs.



APRIL PROGRAM: The 12th Judicial Veterans Treatment Court - Chris Landis & William Sterbinsky

by Perry Korszen

An estimated 500 veterans enter the criminal justice system annually in the Bradenton-Sarasota area, and the Veterans Treatment Court is intended to assist those facing lower level charges. Chris Landis, Veterans Court Services Coordinator, and William Sterbinsky, an Assistant State Attorney, will speak about the Veterans Treatment Court and the Veteran Mentoring Program.

The Twelfth Judicial Circuit's Veterans Treatment Courts (VTC) have been developed to help veterans of the US Armed Forces who are in the criminal justice system address various issues associated with veterans and their return to the broader society. The VTC provides judicial supervision while giving veterans an opportunity to receive treatment for many life's issues that are specific to the veteran population.

A VTC judge better understands the issues that a veteran may be struggling with, such as substance addiction, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and military sexual trauma, and is also more familiar with the Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefit Administration, State Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Service Organizations, and volunteer Veteran Mentors and how they all can assist veteran defendants.

The goals of the VTC are to reduce recidivism, facilitate participant mental wellness and sobriety, improve quality of life, and maintain Public Safety. All participants are required to make monthly court appearances for judicial review. Treatment may involve drug and alcohol treatment; random drug testing; support group meetings; vocational, job, and education referrals; and community supervision. The Twelfth Judicial Circuit VTC program is divided into four phases designed to be completed in one year.

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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	Brian McCarthy	bnmccarthy@gmail.com
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Historian	George Tracy	gtracysr@hotmail.com
Awards Board	Jonathan Gordon	gordonlaw@att.net

Membership Committee

Chairperson	George Tracy	gtracysr@hotmail.com
Recruiting & Retention	Troy Scott	
Recruiting & Retention	Ron Wozniak	
Recruiting & Retention	Perry Korszen	

Scholarship Committee

Chairperson	Claire M. Power	bcpower@comcast.net
Member	Kay Tracy	
Member	Mike Staley	
Member	Jean Southworth	
Member	Len Friedlander	
JROTC Liaison	Tony Mowry	

Scheduled Events Committee

Chair/Reservations	Valerie McCarthy	valerie.mccarthy@gotoalwayshome.com
Greeters	Troy Scott	
Reception Manager	Pat McLain	
Asst. Reception Manager	June Moore	
50-50 Managers	Kay Tracy	
	Christa Friedlander	

Special Programs

Flag Programs & Celebrations	Tom Piazze	tepiazze@gmail.com
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Personal Affairs Committee

Chairperson	Charles Caudill	cccvmi@verizon.net
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Auxiliary/Surviving Spouses

Chairperson	Peggy Mock	peggymock@michaelsanders.com
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Social Club YAHOO (Young At Heart Officers Org)

Coordinator	Ron Wozniak	ronwozniak13@gmail.com
Coordinator	Linda Wozniak	nauticaleffect@msn.com

Support Our Troops Program

Coordinator	Christopher White	white.christopher.f@gmail.com
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brian McCarthy

This year we have again partnered with the Educational Foundation of Sarasota County as a sponsor of the Sarasota Academic Olympics. The Academic Olympics Program is a college-bowl type competition between teams of students from nine Sarasota County high schools. The program provides students the opportunity to participate in a competitive team effort comparable to the experience of students who take part in sports activities. If the athletic Olympic games can motivate our youth to excel on the courts and playing fields, then Academic Olympics can engender equally as much encouragement for young people to pursue learning in their homes and schools. This positive sanction to learning demonstrates that achievements of the mind are worthwhile – even exciting. This year we will be able to support sending a Sarasota County all-star team to the Florida State Commissioner's Academic Challenge competition at Disney in April.

Membership renewals are always an administrative challenge. Remember national MOAA membership is not chapter membership. We are separate associations, although affiliated. If you have lost your membership renewal form you can find one in The Sarasota Breeze, on our web site, or email me and I'll be pleased to send you one.

We are finalizing our luncheon programs for this year. In April, we have a presentation on our County's Veteran's Court, and in May Sheriff Tom Knight will speak about law enforcement issues in our community and assist in awarding our scholarships to our high school scholarship winners.

VA Secretary, David Shulkin, has been meeting with MOAA and other veteran organization leaders at the White House and testifying before the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, outlining his plans for reforming the agency's health care system. He told Congress he intends to build a system that puts veterans first. "Give me the resources and the authority, then hold me accountable." His focus is on ensuring no further degradation of the system, a commitment to an integrated system of care, increased "choice", access to care closer to home, better coordination of insurance coverage, assigning a primary coordinator to assist veterans with their provider and setting "Best Practices" industry standards at the VA. If you are interested in learning more about this subject - visit MOAA national's web site www.moaa.org.

Please note the announcement on page 5 of the JFCS Luncheon Tribute to Veterans Service to Community on May 2 at *The Francis* in Sarasota honoring five veterans who have provided service to others within our community. Our own George Tracy will be an award recipient for his work with MOAS and our advocacy for veterans, and notably, his work over the past nine years on family court cases as a volunteer Guardian ad Litem - representing the interests of over 24 children. Make your reservation for this event, and join MOAS in celebrating George's recognition for his work in the community.



SECRETARY'S CORNER

Peter Dering

President Brian McCarthy called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM on Monday Mar 6, 2017 at the Meadows Community Center. **ATTENDANCE:** *Board Members Present:* Brian McCarthy (Pres) Ron Wozniak (1VP); Peter Dering (Sec'y); Christa Friedlander (Treas); Alan Forrester (Dir) & George Tracy (IPP). *Board Members Absent:* Perry Korszen (2VP); Mario Fajardo (Dir) & Claire Power (Dir). *Committee Chairs & Visitors Present:* Pat McLain, Len Friedlander, Peggy Mock, Dan Willison.

BOARD MEETINGS AND LUNCHEONS

MONTH	BOARD	LUNCHEON
MARCH	6	17
APRIL	3	21
MAY	1	19

PRESIDENTS REPORT: Award Submission - Congratulations to George Tracy for his excellent submission package for the MOAA Five Star Level of Excellence Award. Military Exchanges will be permitting veterans with honorable discharges to make purchases on-line. Purchases of alcohol and military items will not be allowed. MOAS Directory - Brian will follow up on the Pops Orchestra, & Stars & Stripes Foundation ads. We will include the by-laws in this issue. Members who have not paid by this board meeting will not be listed but may receive a directory at any of the luncheon meetings. Liability - In the future all water activity participants will provide a release for MOAS. Memorial Day Parade - Not too early to reserve truck and ensure we have MOAS banners for the sides. Volunteer needed - Len has asked that he be replaced in the fall as editor of the Sarasota Breeze.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Feb 6, 2017 Board meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer reported balances as of February 28, 2017. The report was approved unanimously.

MOAS Operating Account	\$34,328.71
Operating Fund	\$ 31,893.24
LoV Flag initiative	\$ 2,435.47

Scholarship Fund Account	\$47,375.56
CD:	\$ 5,000 (exp. 3/2018)
Checking Acc't	\$42,375.56
Undesignated Scholarship Fund	\$14,095.56
JROTC Scholarships	\$ 8,000.00
Merit Scholarships	\$12,000.00
Veterans Scholarship	\$ -0-
JROTC Support	\$ 1,500.00
Academic Olympics	\$ 1,248.00
SOT Fund	\$ 4,931.00
Outstanding Cade	\$ 600.00

Two additional Veterans Scholarship totaling \$2,000 were distributed during February 2017.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Scheduled Events: The February luncheon had 149 attendees and a profit of \$216. The 50/50 provided \$124 to the SMOSF.

Newsletter: (Len Friedlander): The February issue of the Breeze was emailed to 350 recipients; 75 copies were printed and 66 mailed to MOAS members at a cost of \$103.30. 19 individuals (13 Dues Exempt & 6 Dues Required) who have not responded either to the Membership Renewal Requests or the Request for payment of \$12 for the hardcopy were removed from the mailing

list. The 2017 MOAS Member Directory is in process and expected to be published by April 1. Request a replacement editor be named for the Breeze as other FCOC duties will impinge on ability to continue.

Programs: (Perry Korszen): In addition to Dr Zonies for March, April will feature a presentation on the 12th Circuit Veterans Court Service. Sheriff Tom Knight has been scheduled for our May Scholarship Luncheon. Additional programs being worked are June - Mote Marine; July - Educational Foundation of Sarasota; Sep -Multi chapter- MOAA Gov't Relations VP Dan Merry will be requested from MOAA; Oct-Joseph Holt - Pianist; Nov - Annual Meeting & Toni Gross President Tampa Chapter American Gold Star Mothers; Dec - Gala

LUNCHEON PROGRAMS	
MARCH	Dr. David Zonies - Atomic Energy
APRIL	Chris Landis - 12th Circuit Court
MAY	Scholarships - Sheriff Tom Knight

Membership (George Tracy): **MOAS Active Membership as of 2/28/2017 - 341:** MOAS 2017 Renewal Campaign as of 2/28/2017 - 330 renewal requests sent via postal mail (257 dues paying + 73 exempt): Dues Paying to-date: 208 responses (203 payments; 2 resigns, 1 move, 1 deceased, 1 pending); 49 outstanding for follow-up via mail and/or phone. Thanks to Ron Wozniak for working the outstanding renewals list via phone. Exempt to-date: 43 responses or accounted for (34 active, 1 resigned, 1 moved, 7 deceased); 30 outstanding for follow-up via mail and/or phone. 2016 MOAS LOE submission was forwarded with receipt acknowledged IAW MOAA requirements on 28 Feb 2017 prior to the deadline of 1 Mar 2017!! All MOAS Board members received a copy.

MOAS	1/1/2017	2/28/2017
REGULAR	264	262
SURVIVING SPOUSES	71	75
ALLIED	4	4
TOTAL	339	341

Scholarships: (Claire Power): Mike Staley delivered checks of \$1,000 each to Manatee Technical Colleges (East) & (West) for veteran's scholarships. We will receive biographies of the award recipients as they are chosen. On Mar 29, 2017 Brian McCarthy, Christa Friedlander and Claire Power will meet with Mike Small, the Secretary of the William Schmidt Foundation, to discuss our program and future giving on the part of the Foundation.

Publicity & Marketing: (Alan Forrester): Our last month's press release has been sent to our normal channels. Our distribution list covers about 200 people and groups including MOAA national. We sent our event notice to the Observer Group.

Support Our Troops (SOT): There will be a box party (assembling the SOT package kits) before the Memorial Day parade. Need to check with Jim Hesson about getting the pickup truck from Sarasota Ford before he leaves

YAHOO (Ron Wozniak) Ron presented some new ideas for YAHOO events and revisited some old ones. March 17, The Gordon's hosting the annual St Patrick's Day party; 21 March, inter-coastal fishing trip; April 9, Sarasota Polo Club; May 6, Kayaking; August, Siesta Beach sunset (date TBD); October 11, Octoberfest at the Gold Coast Budweiser facility; La Barge or Marina Jack cruise (date TBD)

Outreach/Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse: (Peggy Mock): Peggy is continuing her outreach efforts to find "new" "old" members, and providing articles for the Breeze newsletter that are of interest to surviving spouses.

Secretary's Corner Continued on Page 9



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mario Fajardo

Budget Challenges Front & Center - With the new administration now in place at one end of Pennsylvania Ave and a new Congress in place at the other end, the top questions on most lawmaker's minds are what will the Trump administration's 2018 budget proposal look like, and what is the way ahead? These questions come in a political environment that has one party firmly in control of two of the three branches of government-and, given the pending Supreme Court nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch, the potential for a political stand-off as to the status of the third. President Trump has stated he is committed to boost spending for the DoD, but that would disproportionately shift cuts onto non-defense discretionary spending under current law. The Administration this week announced plans to release a proposed 2018 budget outline sometime in mid-March, but there is still no approved FY2017 budget.

Several key pieces of legislation and critical dates directly affecting future budget and spending decisions, are creating uncertainty. The government is currently operating under a continuing resolution that expires April 28th. Given the political and fiscal environment going forward, Congress is faced with a few options concerning the Budget Control Act of 2011:

- Repeal sequestration, lifting budget caps and returning to regular order in terms of budget and fiscal considerations;
- Come up with another budget deal and find a way to raise the caps; or
- Leave the caps in place.

Health Care Issues

MOAA Outlines the Future of Military Health Care - MOAA joined the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States this week to share our vision of what the future of health care should look and feel like for beneficiaries. MOAA offered the perspective of the Military Health System's most critical stakeholders: beneficiaries. The recent passing of the FY2017 defense act provides our military with a comprehensive and modernized health benefit plan which supports both medical readiness and beneficiary care.

VA Costs Could Balloon With 'Choice' Reform, New 'AO' Ailments - VA Secretary David J. Shulkin this week announced that his priorities for improving services to veterans include expanding access to private sector health care. The new VA secretary laid out a 10-point plan for improving veterans' health care this weekend - and it doesn't include a move toward privatization.

- **Firing bad employees**- improving accountability at VA centers
- **Extending the Choice program**- beyond its Aug. 7 expiration date
- **Choice 2.0** - Choice needs to be simplified.
- **Improving VA infrastructure**- "Many facilities should've been remodeled, torn down and rebuilt."
- **World-class' services**- enhancing health care requirements unique to the veteran community,
- **Better VA-DoD partnerships**- "working closer together."
- **Better electronic records** - modernizing information technology systems

- **Stopping suicides** - "Suicide prevention is top clinical priority"
- **Appeals modernization**- "appeals process is broken; we can fix it through legislation"

• **Internal improvements**- "we think we can do a lot better."
Tricare Physician Availability Update - Some military families are seeing some doctors and other health care providers dropping out of the Tricare network in advance of the change in Tricare contracts this year, according to complaints submitted to the Department of Defense Military Family Readiness Council. There was no additional information on the number of complaints received or the number of providers leaving the network.

Top 10 Unmet Needs for Wounded Warriors- community leaders and experts identified 10 of the most prevailing issues facing wounded, ill, and injured troops (WII) over the next five years. The roundtable discussions provided a forum to help MOAA and interested stakeholders work toward a common goal of improving the overall health and well-being of wounded warriors and their families.

- Amplify communications and outreach efforts to improve government and public awareness of the WII population and their needs.
- Create a dedicated online forum for NGOs to provide updates and improvements to manage; maintain a robust, real-time National Resource Directory.
- Establish a centralized and uniform process and format for government memorandums of understanding/agreements
- Leverage organizational platforms to advocate for a coordinated government research effort on toxic exposure; other service-connected illnesses and diseases.
- Collaboration between the VA and DoD regarding caregiver support.
- Expand long-term care and support service capability within the DoD and VA health systems.
- Establish a short- and long-term integrated federal and civilian health network care coordination.
- Review the effectiveness of current DoD and VA disability evaluation systems.
- Review the effectiveness of current DoD, military service, and VA WII Programs.
- Evaluate and mitigate disruption in care and benefits for WII among various federal medical benefits,

Sequestration Update

How Sequestration Affects Military Families- Sequestration is intended to save the federal government and the American people from increasing national debt, but it slashes spending indiscriminately. In an effort to control the growth of the federal government, and the costs associated with it, the president ordered a temporary hiring freeze of federal employees just a few days after taking office. As DoD examined the policy, it provided guidance exempting critical categories. One of those categories is "positions providing child care to the children of military personnel." Despite the exemption, some federal positions responsible for a part of the hiring process may be short staffed as a result of the hiring freeze, resulting in a backlog of hires and creating a seam between the authority to hire and the ability to do so.

Continued on Page 9



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Charles Caudill

Every Day is Spring

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Spring is my favorite time of year. It demonstrates that nature always comes alive again after the bleak days of winter. My rose bushes, gardenias and azaleas are outdoing themselves filled with glorious colors of red, white and fuchsia. This year also blessed my enchanted garden with orchids blooming in a tree where they are placed.

I remember when I was much younger during the winter months I would frequently feel despondent. I wasn't sure if the feelings would ever end. It wasn't until I learned these feelings would pass that I was able to think of joyful possibilities and regain a sense of humor.

God loves us so much that we should never be troubled by what comes our way. We have been created to "know everything will work for good to those that love God" and to "rejoice in the Lord always."

When you grow up in North Carolina the arrival of spring is also when the best college basketball tournaments take place. It is now known as March Madness which we are currently experiencing. I was reminded of North Carolina State University coach



Jimmy Valvano's extraordinary ability to inspire his 1983 team to win the NCAA Championship against all odds. On March 4, 1993, at the first ESPY awards and eight weeks before he succumbed to cancer, he gave a heartfelt speech when he was honored with the inaugural Arthur Ashe Courage and Humanitarian Award. His acceptance speech was classic and the most memorable words to me were these:

"I urge all of you, all of you, to enjoy your life, the precious moments you have. To spend each day with some laughter and some thought, to get your emotions going. To be enthusiastic every day...to keep your dreams alive in spite of problems whatever you have. The ability to be able to work hard for your dreams to come true, to become a reality."

This spring has awakened in me the desire to let loose my inner child and do the things that bring me joy. "It's spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you've got it, you want—oh, you don't quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!"

Mark Twain.

We live in an area where we can experience our childhood dreams. None of us should ever be bored living here. It all boils down to the choices we make. Love is our first choice. We need to love ourselves and others. Choose friends to share experiences. Find activities that not only feed our minds, but make us move our bodies.

We can all rejoice because we have the ability to keep spring in our hearts every day.

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

Wednesday, May 3, 2017
12:00 p.m.

The Francis, 1289 N. Palm Avenue, Sarasota

Join us as we recognize award recipients

C.J. Bannister

SSgt, US Air Force
Goodwill Manasota Veterans Services

Don Courtney

CW4, US Army (Retired)
Military Officers Association of America, Bradenton Chapter

Todd Hughes

PFC, US Army
Veterans Services at USF Sarasota Manatee

George P. Tracy, Sr.

LT, US Navy
Military Officers Association of Sarasota

Lee Wetherington

Sgt, US Marine Corps
Harvest House

JFCS, 2688 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34237
Kindly reply no later than April 21, 2017

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

TELEPHONE _____

Entrée Selection: Please indicate entrée selection for all attendees

- Meatloaf
- Grilled Salmon
- Vegetarian

Luncheon ticket: \$45 x _____ = \$ _____

Patron ticket: \$100 x _____ = \$ _____

Table sponsor: \$1,000 x _____ = \$ _____

Reserved table of eight and listing in program book

Check one:

- VISA
- MASTERCARD
- DISCOVER
- AMEX

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date _____ 3 or 4 digit code _____

Checks should be made payable to: JFCS

March Luncheon Photos



Ernie & Dagie Beissinger



(L-R) Sally & Howard Crowell and Beverly Koach



Warren Hudson (L) & Brian McCarthy



(L) David & Jackie Zonies & Bob Zonies



George Tracy (L) & Vic Reiling



(L-R) Harriet McDermott, Carol Fegen & Terry Menyess



Perry Korszen & Jessica Barroso



New Members - Jon & Kay Neary



Ginny Klotzbach (L) & Mary Scheb



Ron & Jean Cota



Scott Bushey (L) & Russ Wiltshire



New Member Bob Beauchamp



Tom & Pauline Mazzone



(L-R) Elliot & Carole Welch, Tony & Mary Tambini, Frank Smith



Howard Thorsen (L) & Brian McCarthy



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

(L-R) Rachel Taylor, Mary Quigley, Pat Swindler, Vic Reiling, Mary Scheb, Pat McLain, Paul O'Connell, Margarethe Wiltshire, Dorothy Bauer & Bob Zonies



YAHOO
 Young at Heart Officers Organization
Ron & Linda Wozniak

Our first YAHOO fishing outing was held Tuesday Feb 21st from 8:00 AM--3:00 PM. Byron Hill captained the 24' boat and Ron Wozniak was his 1st mate. We fished a near offshore reef west of Sarasota on the Gulf of Mexico in about 30 – 35 feet of water. The weather was great and our fishermen took home plenty of fish for their dinner, and Sima Priewe caught the largest: two hefty 14.5" sheepshead.



The March 1st Red Sox vs. Orioles spring training game was attended by 37 of the 38 MOAS members who signed up. It was an exciting game with the Orioles winning 12 – 5. It was a bit warm -- OK, it was hot -- but we had great seats behind home plate. Although, Ed Smith Stadium was a fantastic venue, next year we will be in the shade, and try for a change to a different city and teams.

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Mary & Jon Gordon's house resounded with the sounds of YAHOOs singing Irish songs, the joy of an outstanding array of Irish food and beverage, and the glee/groans when hearing the answers to the Irish trivia contest. It was a wonderful group of 38 and a great night to celebrate the 'wearing of the green'.



Christa Friedlander and Patt Staley will be sponsoring the April 9th Sarasota Polo Club outing (see below), but we are still looking for someone to sponsor the May 6th kayaking event and other YAHOO activities.

Contact Ron Wozniak at (941-779-5448) or email at RonWozniak13@gmail.com

Inshore Fishing Sarasota Bay
Tuesday, March 21st

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM (or earlier)

Freedom Boat Club Dock
 1st Dock on left south of Marina Plaza.
 Marina Jack, Sarasota, FL

4 Fishermen per boat - Limited spaces available
 1st COME BASIS.

Only cost is fuel & bait. FL saltwater fishing license required (unless 65+ & FL resident).

If you have saltwater light to medium tackle, bring it. If not, we will provide. Wear rubber soled shoes. Bring your own food and drink & sunscreen.

Text Ron Wozniak at (941) 779-5448 or
RonWozniak13@gmail.com.

Polo Match
Sunday April 9th - 1:00 PM
Gates open 10:00 AM
Sarasota Polo Club, Lakewood Ranch
 Pay at gate \$12 per adult

Join the Staleys and Friedlanders at the Sarasota Polo fields for the last match of this season. This is a great event for the whole family; children 12 and under are free. The sponsors will provide soft drinks, water, ice, plates, cups, and utensils. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share; and wine or beer for yourself if you prefer; and don't forget your lawn chairs, hats, and sunscreen.



We suggest that you arrive around 11:00 a.m. to have time for socializing, checking out the horses, and partaking in food and drink (and find a parking place). The sponsors will have a canopy with the MOAS banner to mark the spot on the north side of the field, east of the grandstands

Directions: From I-75 exit 213, University Parkway,

head east towards Lakewood Ranch. After 3.5 miles turn right on Lorraine Rd and enter the **second** Polo field entrance. There will be people at the entrance collecting the entrance fee (\$12/adult). Park anywhere and look for the canopy with the MOAS banner.

RSVP to Christa Friedlander at (941) 927-0996 or ladyhawk10@verizon.net and let her know if you are bringing an appetizer or dessert.

Inshore Fishing Terra Ceia Bay
(Between Manatee River & Tampa Bay)

Tuesday April 18th

8:00 AM – 6:30 PM (or earlier)

Freedom Boat Club Dock
 1st Dock on left - Regatta Pointe Marina
 1005 Riverside Drive, Palmetto, FL

4 Fishermen per boat - Limited spaces available
 1st COME BASIS.

Only cost is fuel & bait. FL saltwater fishing license required (unless 65+ & FL resident).

If you have saltwater light to medium tackle, bring it. If not, we will provide. Wear rubber soled shoes. Bring your own food and drink & sunscreen.

Text Ron Wozniak at (941) 779-5448 or
RonWozniak13@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE FOR YAHOO

Kayaking – Robinson Preserve
Bradenton

Saturday May 6th
9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Cost is \$29 per person for a two-person kayak – or BYO Kayak & lifejackets. Instead of a picnic afterwards we will have lunch at a nearby TBD restaurant.

Secretary's Corner Continued from Page 3

Veterans Commission: (Dan Willison) Meeting took place at the Venice American Legion. The Guest Speaker was Major Michael Dubrule, the Marine Commander of the Venice Middle School Young Marines. The Major recently took a Group of 60, 12-13 year old students/cadets to Pearl Harbor, helping to educate our young people on the Symbols of Service and Sacrifice honoring the Fallen and promoting patriotism. He presented a short briefing on what they accomplish at the school with the students, and each of four Cadets that made the trip gave a short one minute talk on what being on the Arizona Memorial and seeing the names on the wall meant to them, each presenting a moving impression of what Service and Country meant to them. There was an update on the local veteran Scam that we are only too familiar with in our own MOAS that requested via telephone contributions of \$20 to cover cost to pay a courier for delivery of medical equipment being delivered to a Navy Veteran. Mr. Stewart Taub, Vice Chair of the Manatee County Veterans Association, was one of the team that worked covertly with Bradenton Law Enforcement to help arrest two male members that were part of the scam. This reportedly is only one of several scams that we all need to question. Think twice and report anything seeming suspicious to authorities.

Flag Initiative & Stars & Stripes Events: (Tom Piazza) No report.

Legislative Affairs Committee: (Mario Fajardo) No Report.

Academic Olympics: Prizes will be engraved cell phone chargers. The Education Foundation needs help with funding to get competitors to State competition. MOAS will provide \$500 donation (Board approved) and \$900.00 will go towards the phone chargers. George & Len attended a meeting with the Educational Foundation of Sarasota which sponsors the Olympics and some good interaction could result. All competitions are now held in one location and follow the same format as State. Kudos to Pat for her efforts.

New Business:

- Renewal of our insurance without additional exclusions, was approved by the board. Need member consent to include email addresses.
- For liability purposes, we will start requiring members to sign release forms prior to certain events (e.g. water events) Specifics forthcoming.
- CRM software for membership tracking and recruiting was proposed: Cost-\$1500.00 for set up, \$55.00 per month fee, \$2100.00 for the first year. Discussion - We get \$8,000.00 a year from dues. We can't afford it, (Christa). George said it would not help him with membership. Proposal was disapproved.
- We need to advertise well prior to the scholarship luncheon.
- The Board agreed that the By-Laws can/should be included in the Directory. The directory should be complete by March 15.
- Nonrenewal members will not receive a directory

Continuing to move forward:

- Recruit! Recruit! Recruit!!
- Encourage MOAS 2017 Staff/Committee service!
- Continue MOAS Stars & Stripes donor development & Event Planning!
- Distribute flyers & brochures – libraries, luncheons & events
- Promote national MOAA "Take Action" – <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>
- Promote Florida state-level MOAA "Take Action" with Senate and House Veteran

NEXT MEETING: Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 4:00PM on **Monday April 3, 2017** at the

Academic Olympics

The Sarasota County Academic Olympics sponsored by the Educational Foundation of Sarasota conducted the second series of matches on February 28th. All matches will be held at **The Landings School Board Building**.

There are eight teams participating this year – Pine View, Booker, Cardinal Mooney, North Port, Riverview, Sarasota, Suncoast PolyTech and Venice High Schools. The remaining 2017 competition is scheduled for:

Tuesday March 28th Time: 3:30 PM

Location: The Landings School Board Building

1960 Landings Blvd

Enter at the blue awning (north side of the campus)

There are three matches going on simultaneously in **Rooms**

219, 220 and 101

Saturday April 1st Playoffs and Finals

Time: Playoffs begin at 9:30 AM (all teams will play)

Lunch 11:30

Finals will begin close to noon (6 teams will play)

Thursday 4/27 – Sat 4/29 State Competition - Orlando

Sarasota County will be sending an All-Star Team to the Commissioner's Academic Challenge in Orlando.

Visitors are encouraged to view the matches – you'd be **SURPRISED** at the breadth of knowledge these young ladies and gentlemen exhibit.

Legislative Update Continued from Page 4

More Choice, Better Health Care in Store for Vets

VA Secretary, David Shulkin, met with MOAA and other veteran organization leaders at the White House outlining his plans for reforming the agency's health care system. Thanks to the input of MOAA members, we were able to ask the secretary about his priorities and got the first glimpse of how he plans to reform the VA health. The plan includes some private sector contributions, and lays out a vision of eight principles to guide the program's development:

- Ensure no degradation of existing care.
- Commit to an integrated system.
- Increase "choice" [health care options] for all veterans; however, program expansion would start with service-connected veterans (it is estimated that 15.6 percent of veterans are categorized as "service-connected").
- Ensure enrolled veterans get care closer to home (move to a clinical eligibility standard rather than the current 30-day/40-mile rule).
- Optimize coordination with other health insurance coverage the veteran may have. The VA would establish a "Primary Coordinator of Benefits" position to manage the effort.
- Maintain affordability for the lowest income-level veterans.
- Assist veterans supported by multiple providers with a VA primary coordinator of care across the system (in-house or community care).
- Apply industry standards for performance, health standards, quality, payment, etc.

There was consensus on multiple fronts, including the need to immediately extend the Choice Act.





MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS

George Tracy

Dear MOAS Members, Though we will continue to welcome all remaining 2017 Membership renewals, we have essentially completed our 2017 Renewal Campaign effort. Given the inevitable attrition, we are reinforcing our efforts on the next phase of our membership program: the 2017 Chapter Recruiting Campaign for new members; focusing on our large and growing community of active MOAA National members and local veteran officers. We are also proceeding with the production and publication of the 2017 MOAS Active Membership Directory, which will, hopefully, be available by the first week of April. As always, we need, and welcome, your assistance toward achieving the goal of retaining current members and attracting new ones.

Since our early March Board meeting, and in spite of recent losses, our team effort to renew current members and attract new ones to-date has been relatively successful, having renewed 82.5% of our 2017 renewal goal with others still in process. So, if you have not yet paid your 2017 dues, please forward your check to our MOAS address (Page 2, lower left corner), as soon as possible. As in the past, we will continue to try to reach you until we are certain of your status and your wishes. We appreciate and look forward to your continued MOAS chapter membership.

As I mentioned earlier, our national organization, MOAA, is continuing its "2017 Chapter Recruiting" campaign in its efforts to assist local chapter retention and growth. This program offers financial incentives, recognition and awards that assist chapter funding of operations, local scholarships, "support the troops" and other charitable and social programs. So, if you encounter any active, retired or former military officers and/or their spouses in your local adventures, who are not yet MOAS chapter members, please let them know we are here for them and invite them to join us. And for those of you who have not yet joined the national MOAA organization or have let your national MOAA membership lapse, please be aware and, at least, take advantage of their no-fee (free) BASIC electronic membership so that you can access the information and benefits of national MOAA programs. Make it a point to visit <http://www.moaa.org> and the other web pages on that site, which feature, for example, some very relevant coverage in the "Legislative Update", "Why Should You Join?" and other areas of interest. Check it out!!

Finally, a hearty welcome to all new and renewing members and...

Thanks for your support of MOAA & MOAS!!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

New Member

Roble, John (Rosanne) CDR, USN
333 W. Royal Flamingo Drive
Sarasota, FL 34236-1815
(941) 388-0739 LAT27D@gmail.com
referred by Brian McCarthy

Neary, Jon L (Kay) LT, USN
7481 Saddle Creek Place
Sarasota, FL 34241
(941)929-9690 jon.neary@gmail.com

Bruder, Peter G (Carolyn) LCDR, USN
5510 Shadow Lawn Drive
Sarasota, FL 34242
(732) 644-8687 petebruder@comcast.net
referred by Brian McCarthy

Beauchamp, Robert L CDR, USN
7603 Preserves Court
Sarasota, FL 34243-3766
(767) 617-0451 bobbeauchamp-@verizon.net

Directory Changes

O'Brien, John C. (Carol) COL, USA
1010 American Eagle Boulevard, Apt.# 338
Sun City Center, FL 33573
(813) 331-3492 obrienjc.67@gmail.com



Surviving Spouse Corner

Peggy Mock

When retired service members and their dependents turn 65 and they enroll in Medicare, they also become eligible for TRICARE For Life (TFL). No fees are associated with TFL. However, beneficiaries must pay the Medicare Part B premiums to stay enrolled in TFL. TFL works as the secondary payer to Medicare; Medicare pays 80% of covered services, and TFL pays the remaining 20%. TFL also pays the Medicare deductible. Generally, beneficiaries should not have any out-of-pocket costs for Medicare and TRICARE covered services.

Under provisions of the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), TRICARE benefit plans for service members and dependents under age 65 will be streamlined from three plan types to two. TRICARE Select is the new preferred provider option; it will replace TRICARE Standard. The new TRICARE Select will have an Extra-like network of TRICARE providers who will have agreed to accept a pre-negotiated rate of payment. The other option is TRICARE Prime. It will be modernized so the majority of referrals to specialists from primary care managers will no longer be required to go through a pre-authorization process.

MOAS Luncheon
Friday, April 21, 2017
Michael's On East



MENU

SERVED LUNCHEON

Italian Wedding Soup

Signature Bread Basket

ENTREE

Pan-Seared Mahi Mahi with Prosciutto,

Sage & White Wine

Garlic Roasted New Potatoes

Sprinkled with Parsley, Haricot Verts

& Roasted Baby Carrots

SERVED DESSERT

Key Lime Martini: Layers of Tart Key Lime

Cream, Crunchy Hazelnut Dacquoise

& Berry Compote

Topped with Torched Meringue

& Garnished with a Chocolate Stick

Served Coffee, Decaf & Tea

MOAS LUNCHEON RESERVATION

For 4/21/2017 at 11:30 AM

Michael's On East

DRESS: Coat (Tie Optional)

Please reserve ___ seats for the luncheon on the date above.

Cost \$28/person (Tax & Gratuity included)

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____

MEMBER INFORMATION

NAME, RANK, SERVICE & PHONE #

New member or first luncheon attendance? **NEW FIRST**

Is this your Birthday month? **YES**

Is this your spouse's Birthday month? **YES**

GUEST INFORMATION

(Use extra sheet if needed)

1. NAME: _____
2. NAME: _____
3. NAME: _____
4. NAME: _____

Please return reservation form and check made out to:

MOAS

Mail to: *Valerie McCarthy*
 7429 Starfish Drive
 Sarasota, FL 34231

QUESTIONS? 440-391-1974 or

Valerie.Mccarthy@GoToAlwaysHome.com

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.

*We must provide the restaurant with an exact number of reservations and guarantee the number of attendees at least 48 hours in advance of event. Additional requests or refunds will **not** be honored after that time.*

*If you make your reservation with the intent to pay at the door we must hold you to that **promise** as Michaels on East will charge us for your guaranteed meal if you are in attendance or not.*

We need your help if we are to continue providing an excellent luncheon experience to everyone without incurring costs for meals reserved but not served.

Thank you for your consideration.



MEET & GREET

Sarasota MOAA

Happy Hour/Meet & Greet/Officer's Call

Wednesday, April 12th 5:00 - 7:00pm

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

@ Gecko's Grill & Pub

351 N. Cattleman Road Sarasota

corner of Fruitville Rd - just west of I-75

<http://geckosgrill.com/>

 CALENDAR 		
MARCH - APRIL - MAY 2017		
DATE	EVENT	TIME
Mar 21, Tuesday	YAHOO: Inshore Fishing-Marina Jack- Details on Page 8	8:00 a.m.
Mar 28 & Apr 1	Academic Olympics - Details on Page 9	3:30pm&9:30am
April 3, Monday	MOAS Board Meeting - Meadows Community Center	4:00 p.m.
April 9, Saturday	YAHOO: Polo - Lakewood Ranch - Details on Page 8	11:00 a.m.
Apr 12, Wednesday	Meet & Greet - Geckos Grill & Pub - Details on Page 11	5:00 p.m.
April 18, Tuesday	YAHOO: Inshore Fishing-Terra Ceia Bay - Details on Page 8	11:30 a.m.
April 21, Friday	Luncheon - Michaels On East - Chris Landis, 12 Circuit Court 	11:30 a.m.
May 1, Monday	MOAS Board Meeting - Meadows Community Center	4:00 p.m.
May 19, Friday	Luncheon - Michaels On East - Scholarships - Sheriff Tom Knight	11:30 a.m.



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

Apr 20-22	7PM	Fiddler on The Roof (Musical)
Apr 22	2PM	(Matinee)
May 1	7PM	Music Senior Recital
May 5	6PM	Film/Digital Design Showcase
May 11-12	7PM	Songwriters Showcase
May 19	6PM	Senior Art Show
	7PM	Dance Senior Recital
May 25	7PM	Theater Senior Recital
<i>Theater, Music & Dance Performances \$15 Adults; \$10 Seniors; \$5 Students</i>		

Shop at Amazon Smile
And Amazon will make a donation to our
Sarasota Military Officers Scholarship Fund (SMOSF)

Go to www.smile.amazon.com and enter the same email and password for your existing Amazon account.
If you don't have an Amazon account, click on 'create an account' at the bottom right corner of the page.
Next, when asked to select a charity. Choose the **Sarasota Military Officers Scholarship Fund(SMOSF)**
That's it - Simple!!
You pay nothing and it does not affect the price you pay.
You only have to do this once---after that just shop at www.smile.amazon.com
It's exactly the same as shopping at Amazon.com - with the added bonus that Amazon will make a donation to **SMOSF** based on your purchases.

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 _____