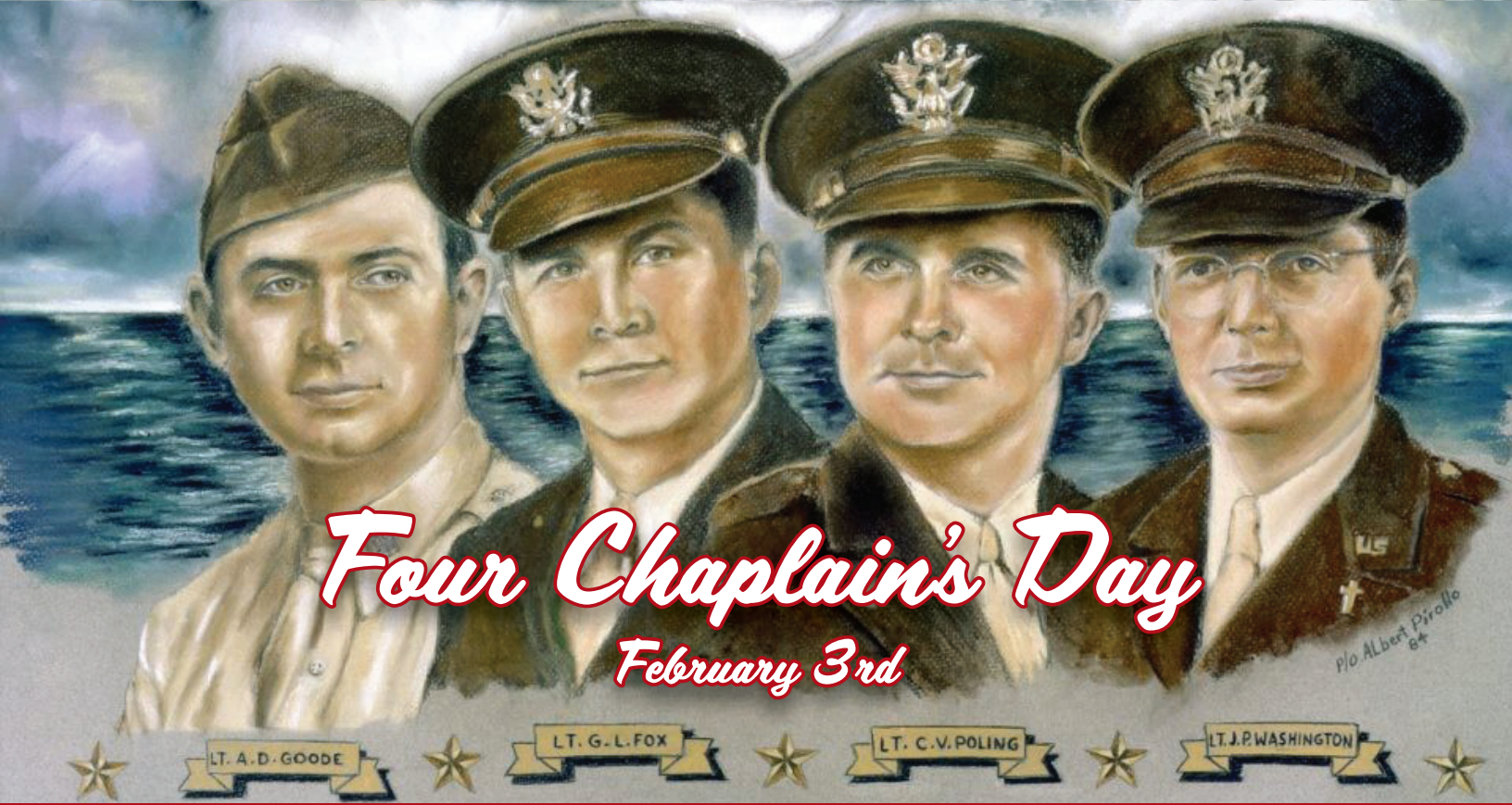
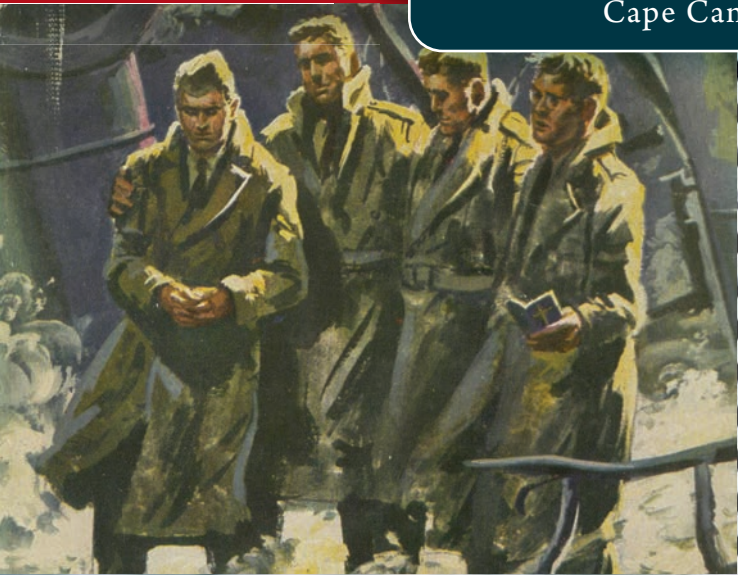




The INTERCOM

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc.



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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

**Steve Cusick, Captain, USN (Ret),
President, MOAACC**



VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

AHOY THERE! As a Naval Aircraft Carrier guy, I trust you will allow me some latitude to use some well-known *nautical* jargon terms this month. It is safe to say that the view from the **MOAACC** Bridge is definitely,

"All Ahead Full . . . and Steady as She Goes."

As I write this note, (looking astern of course), we have recently completed a very successful MOAA Florida Council of Chapters "**Leadership Training Seminar and Convention**" in Orlando under the able leadership of our own Colonel Steve Bond. Steve will discuss the results of this important meeting at our weekly "Thursday Morning Breakfast Club" held every Thursday beginning promptly at 0800 hours at our HQ, the Indian River Colony Club.

Likewise, (for you landlubbers) looking astern off the port side, several of our shipmates recently returned from the 19th Annual Good Deeds Foundation Cruise to the Eastern Caribbean where a "Good Time" was had by ALL HANDS.

"NOW HEAR THIS" . . . All MOAACC events are **always** conveniently listed on our website: www.moaacc.org by Colonel Mike Schroeder. Check it Out!

Upcoming events on the short-range Radar Scope include the following:

6 Feb 2025 – Current Events Forum with Robin Peterson – Estate Planning Legal expert

11 Feb 2025 – On-The-Go Luncheon – (Always the 2nd Tuesday of the Month)

18 Feb 2025 – MOAACC Luncheon with Guest Speaker Ernest Dorling – "Paying it Forward"

28 Feb 2025 – Special Event Honoring Our Veterans "Every Day is Veterans Day" (RSVP)

So please mark your calendars accordingly, and "Turn-To" and join your Shipmates at these great MOAACC events. **SEE YOU THERE** or **Walk The Plank!**

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hans F. Hunt, LTC (Ret), U.S. Army

As the new 2nd Vice President for the chapter, my responsibility is conducting the planning and procedures for gaining and retaining chapter members. Here are the goals for calendar year 2025:

1. Encourage all members to carry a membership form with them at all times. This will be done in order to talk about how great our organization is and all the great things we are doing in our community. It's only \$20 per year for chapter membership. You can carry these membership forms with you everywhere you go to include the gym, church, and when you're shopping and you see someone in Veteran gear.
2. We need each member to bring in at least one member into the organization during the year. You can explain about our 3 Pillars: Legislative Advocacy, Local Support and Philanthropy, and Special Camaraderie. This should enhance the interest of our fellow officers in the community.
3. We will continue our full court press on those members that have not renewed their membership by reaching out with personal calls from our MOAACC members.

Our chapter website, at the hands of Mike Schroeder does a great job of reminding members when to renew their membership. The program also automatically sends out reminders to sponsors to inform them to contact unpaid members they are responsible for, to encourage them to pay their dues and continue membership.

As you all know, we have many great events during the year and numerous community activities that MOAACC is involved in. We would like to encourage all of you to engage our fellow officers in the community and have them sign up for membership so they can enjoy the benefits of our organization.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Rita Shapiro, CAPT (ret)

During my recent travel I encountered many historical sites and also reunited with a colleague I had not seen in a few decades. What impressed me was to learn that not everyone, even in our allied nations, really understands the mission and purpose of the US military. I further enjoyed sharing with them that women in our military do fly aircrafts and drive ships and also have strong leadership presence in all associated fields including medical and other support, working shoulder to shoulder with everyone. That to some was quite surprising. It was a pleasure educating some of those encounters on the values we place on freedom for all and that our mission first and foremost is of peace and service!

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 2/06 Current Affairs Forum w/Robin Petersen - Estate Planning - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 2/11 On-The-Go Luncheon at Florida's Seafood Bar & Grill - 11:30 AM
@ Florida's Seafood Bar & Grill, Cocoa Beach
- 2/13 TMBC - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 2/18 MOAACC Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - Chapel
- 2/18 MOAACC Luncheon - Guest Speaker Ernest W. Dorling - "Paying it Forward" - 11:30 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 2/20 TMBC - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 2/27 TMBC - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 2/28 Every Day is Veterans Day! - 10 AM
@ Space Coast Health Foundation Center for Collaboration, Rockledge

To see details for these events,
visit <https://moaacc.org/events>

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See more in the online version
at <https://moaacc.org>

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PHOTOS:

- Photos must be in "High Resolution" in .jpg format and sent as an **"Attachment."**
- When sending photos, select "actual size" on computer or cell phone and send as **"Attachment."**
- Submit only up to two photos per article. More photos may be accepted if necessary.
- All photos must have "captions" of who, what, when, where and why.

ARTICLES:

- Articles must be in Microsoft "Word" format in Times New Roman 12 font. **PDF NOT ACCEPTED**
- LIMITS: One article per email, not more than 375 words. Each Article must include Author Name & Rank

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- **DO NOT SEND Cc TO EVERYONE**

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

John R. McMahon, BG (Retired), USA

The Republicans Take Charge

With incoming President Trump's inauguration a few days away, media anticipation about what his first moves will be and what sorts of policy changes he will implement are approaching hysteria levels. It seems almost counterproductive trying to predict what will happen rather than taking a more prudent "wait and see" stance and give the new leadership an opportunity to craft meaningful policy and legislation, the real "meat and potatoes" of governing. This is not to suggest that insightful analysis, with some predictive consequences of this or that policy, is not helpful as the process plays out. In the Congress, which is the focus of this space, there are many more actors in the mix and, because much of what is to come must be undergirded by legislation and appropriations, a modicum of anticipation and predictive analysis is warranted, especially in the national defense sphere.

Hearings are underway in the Senate for key cabinet and other senior government positions. A big push is also underway to secure sufficient Republican votes for some of the more contentious nominees including Pete Hegseth to be SECDEF among others. Deference to the new President is certainly apropos but so is close scrutiny of the nominees' respective qualifications and prospective positions on important policy matters. Based on the Senate Armed Services Committee hearing that occurred earlier this week, hardly any Republican or Democrat Senator focused on some of the "life or death" issues facing the Pentagon. These include the growing threat of China's burgeoning military capability, the dilapidated state of the US industrial base to produce weapons and ammunition needed to fight the next war for more than a few days or weeks, or how drones and artificial intelligence will impact near-term and future warfare. Similar challenges exist in the US Intelligence Community (IC) where similar hard-nose scrutiny is needed in subsequent hearings. The US Senate needs to take its "advise and consent" role seriously.

Since my last update, Speaker Johnson was re-elected albeit with some last-minute drama to garner sufficient votes oriented around spending and our growing deficits and the national debt. As usual, the best the House could do (with a complicit Senate) was kick the can down the road on a FY2025 budget only to face the prospect of another government shutdown in March. Republican spending plan continues to elude the Republican-controlled House where the entire conference must unify to overcome their tenuously slim majority. Given their regional and ideological differences, it is difficult to imagine this necessary unity while the prospects of the House democrats bailing out Speaker Johnson again are next to nil. Whatever the House

gins up must get through the Senate with its restrained appetite for huge spending cuts. Meanwhile, the current debt limit suspension expires at the end of January at which time the government either defaults or figures a way to raise or suspend the borrowing limit again. This will be one of the first big tests in the new Congress.

The top priority emerging from House-Senate leadership discussions is the prospect of passing a reconciliation bill to jumpstart the new Administration's agenda. The reconciliation process allows the Senate to pass bills by a simple majority thus avoiding the threat of a filibuster which requires 60 votes to overcome. It is a way for Congress to enact legislation on taxes, spending and the debt limit by simple majority after the House and Senate agree to spending and revenue targets for various committees, called a budget resolution. Once the committees complete their work, a single Omnibus bill is passed by both chambers, and signed by the President into law. This mammoth bill will be used to increase the debt limit, extend the 2017 Trump tax cuts (with some possible amendments such as increasing or eliminating the State and Local Tax (SALT) deduction cap), cut federal spending and impose a wide-ranging immigration crackdown. It remains to be seen in this first month of the second Trump presidency whether the Trifecta control of both chambers of Congress and the presidency will yield such ambitious results.

Your future. Our focus.



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FINANCIAL LITERACY

CAPT Bob Houle, USCG (retired)

"The Talk" - Part 2: Heirs Seeking Information on Parents' Estate Plan

If your parents haven't shared their estate plan with you, you are being left in a very difficult situation. For children of military families, starting a conversation about finances and inheritance can feel especially daunting. However, these discussions are essential for understanding military benefits and ensuring plans are in place for the future. Addressing these issues early can prevent confusion or legal challenges later.

Why This Conversation is Crucial

- **Preparedness:** Military families often have access to specific benefits like the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits, military pensions, and TRICARE. These benefits have various conditions and processes. Without a clear understanding, important entitlements could be missed, or family members could face unnecessary delays in accessing funds. Having parents' input and guidance on these issues is immensely helpful.
- **Understanding Your Parents' Wishes:** Your parents may have made specific decisions about their estate or inheritance that need to be communicated. Military pensions, retirement pay, and disability benefits may have certain restrictions or implications that affect how assets are distributed. Understanding these choices now can prevent unpleasant surprises later. A key issue in this area is the difference between "equal treatment of heirs" and "equitable treatment". When heirs have disparate life circumstances, treating them "equally" (say a 50/50 split of assets) may result in one heir being much better off overall than the other when the intent may have been to have each end up being in about the same overall life situation. Having the parents' input, while they're alive, is key to avoiding distress among the heirs.
- **Planning for Long-Term Care:** Discussing long-term care plans is crucial. Whether your parents are still on active duty, retired, or widowed, knowing what resources are available for future healthcare or assisted living ensures they receive the care they need when they need it.

Overcoming Resistance and Barriers

Many parents in military families may resist talking about financial matters. Discussing finances can feel like a loss of control, especially for those accustomed to the discipline and independence of military life. Parents might also avoid these conversations due to discomfort facing their mortality or potential future dependency.

Privacy concerns can also be a factor. Some parents worry that sharing financial details will lead to misunderstandings or pressures from their children. In military families, where privacy and respect for authority are often emphasized, this hesitation can be even stronger.

How to Approach the Conversation

- **Approach with Care and Respect:** Emphasize that your goal is to be prepared in case of an emergency. Frame the

discussion as an effort to ensure everything is in place to support your parents when necessary.

- **Start with General Questions:** Asking about their wishes for the future can open the door to more specific discussions about financial and inheritance planning.
- **Consider Professional Help:** Involving a third-party professional, like an estate planner or financial advisor specializing in military benefits, can make the process easier. A neutral expert can help clarify complex benefits and ease any tension around the conversation.

Starting these discussions now will give your family peace of mind, ensuring that military benefits and financial plans are fully understood and responsibly managed when the time comes.

Never Stop Serving!

POINTS TO PONDER

Chap, LtCol, Thomas Unrath USAF (Ret)

Love Your Neighbor

"Do to others what you would have them do to you." All religions have this concept as part of their belief system. Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as yourself." By "neighbor" he meant everyone.



February is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. A day especially when we think of those we love. At least we speak, demonstrate, or distribute tokens of affection. Remember those grade school classroom valentines we used to pass around to our classmates?

Many times, those expressions are simple exercises in being friendly. The classroom could even become a serious time of competition. Did your teachers ever say, as mine did, "Be sure you bring one for everybody?"

Jesus never meant for love to be a competition. Christianity and all the other religions present a love involving care for and service to others – everyone. Love is not just a warm, happy feeling, an internal enjoyable emotion. Love is actions for the benefit of others.

Sometimes those actions are for those we have a genuine deep, lasting affection for, those we "love." Sometimes it means demonstrating that care in action for the good of people outside our usual collection of acquaintances, maybe even some we don't like.

I'll state the obvious; we have had a lot of political dissensions in the months, even year, leading to the recent election and through today. I've heard name-calling, a lot of division into us-vs them, I've heard it in chapter gatherings. Those things make it difficult to care for, to "love" one another. The people we have relegated to the "them" side, those we place in the "other" bucket, not "ours" become less worthy of our service, sometimes even our attention.

We are called to love, serve, and attend to the needs of all people. As we consider "love" this month, I ask us to ponder how we can be more loving, especially to those whom we might not be at first inclined to love. Then put love into action. Our pondering stops and we start caring for and serving all God's people. And, remember, ALL people are God's people.



MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION

Donne Weaver, Pres. GDF

Good Deeds Expanding in First Month of 2025

As the first month of 2025 unfolded, your Good Deeds Foundation started out the New Year with a bang. After a very busy December and just a few days off for the holidays, GDF was able to provide January Grants to 11 different causes in one day and get a good start in raising even more funds to meet or \$180,000 FY 2025 Budget Goal by September.

We look to welcome a couple of new GDF Board members next month; completing a unique effort to provide second semester funding support to all 14 high school JROTC programs; and finalize a plan to have a very different fundraiser and community outreach effort this year.

For many reasons the GDF Board decided not to stage a Golf Fundraiser Tournament this year after 10 straight years of doing so. Instead, our Board is working on an innovative alternative to both raise GDF funds and better expose MOAACC/GDF/Scholarship to more people than ever in the community. Stay tuned for details on this plan for the Fall of 2025.

To help us continue to do more to help more veterans, active duty, youth, and special veteran 501c3 organizations in the community, please consider donating early in 2025. Perhaps an RMD donation is appropriate or a one-time annual donation before tax deadlines. GDF can also tailor your donation to our various specific causes including the

JROTC MOAACC Medal Grant for Recipients in the April Luncheon. That event recognizes top leaders in all 14 JROTC programs, ROTC at FIT and four other Cadet organizations. Please contact any GDF Board member for more information.

On a personal note, I hope you are as proud of your GDF as I am. I served in the US Army's Second Infantry Division. Their motto is shared by your GDF: "Second to None".



Over the years GDF has been thanked in many ways — here is a unique wooden piece from the Operation WarmHeart leaders at PSFB. This year GDF donated a record \$10,000 to WarmHeart in support of junior enlisted personnel and their families.

Honored to provide
specialized care
and recognition
to our *nation's heroes.*



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Mark Your Calendar!

Save the Dates for upcoming MOAACC Events:

28 February 2025: Every Day is Veterans Day!

11 March 2025: Health Care on the Rocks

15 March 2025: The 242nd Commemoration of The Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War

22 March 2025: Retiree Appreciation Day, UCF, Student Union Center

15 April 2025: ROTC & JROTC Awards Ceremony

08-11 May 2025: 37th Annual All Veterans Reunion

20 May 2025: MOAACC Luncheon to Honor Students with Service Academy Appointments or ROTC Scholarships

15 June 2025: Scholarship Application Process Closes

15 July 2025: Scholarship Award Presentations

18 November 2025: MOAACC Luncheon & Annual Membership Business Meeting

5 December 2025: MOAACC Annual Christmas Dinner Dance

Space Coast Navy Wives' Club

Please join us for our February meeting. It will be held on **Friday, February 21st, 2025**, at **THE TIDES**.

We are in the process of finding a speaker as our scheduled one had to cancel due to illness.

Social hour begins at 11:30am and lunch is served at noon.

The menu choices are Pan-Seared Chicken Breast with Hunter's Sauce or a Chef Salad. Our dessert will be Red Velvet Cupcakes.

For more information and to make reservations, please call Phyllis Banks at (321) 783-7028.

or text (321) 223-5910. Reservations must be made no later than noon on Tuesday, February 18th.

Remember friends and spouses are always welcome.

Ellie Joy

(321) 757-0193

MOAACC On-the-Go-Luncheon

The February On-the-Go-Luncheon (OTG) will be on 11 February 2025 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at:

Florida's Seafood

480 W Cocoa Beach Cswy

Cocoa Beach, FL 32921

Remember, the OTG is a social event for everyone to gather and enjoy the company without the encumbrance of any business. So please come and join your fellow members, families and friends and enjoy a lovely luncheon.



MOAACC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Welcome New MOAACC Members for January 2025

Last Name	First Name	Prefix	Service	Component	Duty Status	Member's Sponsor
Cropper	Thomas	RADM	Navy	Regular	Retired	Steve Cusick
Ingram	Robert	LT	Navy	Regular	Former	Steve Cusick
Simmons	Patricia	Lt Col	Air Force	Regular	Retired	Mike Schroeder
Simmons	Thomas	Major	Air Force	Regular	Retired	Mike Schroeder
Yorkshaitis	Lawrence	Mr	Air Force	Regular	Retired	Dave Conroe



SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Col D Brent Baysinger, USAF (Ret)

Help Students Fight Inflation with Scholarships in 2025

February 2025 marks the second month of our annual six-month MOAACC Scholarship Corporation campaign for eligible candidates which culminates in the 42nd Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon this summer. In 2024, we awarded 11 scholarships of \$7,000. Our July awards presentation provided an excellent opportunity for our scholarship winners, donors and MOAACC members to honor the awardees with some well-deserved pomp and circumstance.

According to *U.S. News & World Report*, for the 2024-2025 school year, the average annual cost of college varied from \$11,011 for in-state tuition; \$24,513 for out-of-state tuition; and \$43,505 for a private college. This reflects a 5.5% increase for private colleges over the 2023-2024 school year, and a 2.2% and 2.4% increase for in state and out-of-state public colleges respectively. A MOAACC scholarship will go a long way in helping awardees pay for the burgeoning cost of college academics and extracurricular pursuits.

Lastly, as we begin the New Year it's a great time to review or establish your planned giving for 2023. Please consider a donation to the Scholarship Corporation! We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit and your donations are tax-deductible. (Make sure you consult, as applicable, your accountant, attorney, and financial advisor to make your contribution as tax efficient as possible.) With continued donor support from the MOAACC community, we will continue to meet our **goals**:

- To assist worthy students who are descendants or wards of members of the U.S. uniformed services.
- To achieve the established annual scholarship objective through donations and endowment income.
- To recognize donors for their contributions to the Fund.

Please consider supporting the MOAACC Scholarship Corporation in 2025!

TAPS

**MOAA CAPE CANAVERAL CHAPTER
MEMBER, AUXILIARY, and SPOUSE DEATHS**
December 2024 deaths listed
for February 2025 Intercom

NONE TO REPORT



MOAACC SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

- Anthony Korvas
- William and Carol Kling

Thank you

MOAACC Luncheon - January 21, 2025

Stephanie Robinson is the Planning Coordinator for Brevard County Emergency Management, where she plays a vital role in maintaining and enhancing the county's emergency response plans. With over 14 years of experience in public safety, Stephanie began her career as a Damage Controlman in the United States Coast Guard before transitioning to emergency management. Stephanie enjoys life with her husband, two children, two dogs, and a velcro cat. Her commitment to innovative emergency management practices underscores her dedication to ensuring community safety and preparedness.



Stephanie Robinson, Planning Coordinator for Brevard Emergency Management was the luncheon speaker for the January 21, 2025, MOAACC Luncheon held at the IRCC Colony Hall.



Cocoa-Beach JROTC Honor Guard Takes Position



Cocoa-Beach JROTC Honor Guard Present Colors during Pledge of Allegiance



The Honor Guard Retires Colors



Chaplain Adams offers Convocation



Steve Bond and Steve Cusick Present the FCOC-Award to Chaplain Adams



Steve Bond and Steve Cusick Present the FCOC-Award to Chaplain Unrath



Steve Bond and Steve Cusick Present the FCOC-Award to Rick Knisley



Luncheon Speaker Stephanie Robinson begins presentation



MOAACC President Steve Cusick Presents MOAACC Coin to Stephanie Robinson

MOAACC Installation New Leadership Team for 2025



On Saturday evening, January 4th, we installed the 2025 Leadership Team for the Chapter! At the ceremony, outgoing Chapter President, Col Rick Kniseley (USAF, Ret) transferred the Chapter President's Gavel to CAPT Steve Cusick (USN, Ret). VADM Don Hagen (USN, Ret), former Navy Surgeon General, was the officiating officer for the swearing in of the new Officers and Directors. Prior to the installation ceremony, Col Gary Eppler (USAF, Ret) received the chapter's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award—Gary is a former Chapter President serving in 2018.





DOD Eases Pharmacy Process for Prescriptions Processing

45 MDG
Patrick SFB
DosePharm Quick Guide

Track the status of your Rx activations.

Activate new prescriptions and let us know what you're looking for!

Add any other insurance you have for accurate billing.

Check the Tricare formulary and submit technical support questions to DosePharm.

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Registration will require your DoD ID number.

ACTIVATING NEW PRESCRIPTIONS

1. Select "Pharmacy" followed by "Activate RX"
2. Verify the patient's information. Select "On-Base" or "Off-Base" Provider. List all your medications to activate. List the Provider(s) Name.
3. Receive real-time updates through notifications.

SUBMITTING QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

1. Select "Pharmacy" followed by "Submit a question"
2. Select "Need Help" followed by "PHARMACY SUPPORT"
3. Select "SEND MESSAGE" and submit your question to our staff. You will receive an update when a staff member has responded to your concern.

A new process has been launched by the DOD to make it simpler for you to get your prescriptions at ANY DOD Pharmacy. Hence, you do not have to worry about getting your medications even while away from home.

Download the Mobile App on your phone or tablet: DosePharm

Once the App is downloaded, you will need to register to create an account by providing your name, date of birth, your DOD ID number, cell phone number, and an email address.

You will then receive a confirmation code to your email. Use that code to verify your account on the App.

Now you are ready to follow the step-by-step instructions below as noted in Pharm-1

The instructions on Pharm-2 are specific to the Patrick Space Force Base Pharmacy

When you are traveling and you need refills, you will need to go to the App and change the pharmacy in your profile then click update profile.



Patrick SFB Pharmacy



NEW PRESCRIPTION ACTIVATION OPTIONS:	PRESCRIPTION REFILL OPTIONS:
DosePharm App Mobile Check-In: (Scan the QR Code) 	Refill Automated System: 321-321-4774 Enter entire RX number: 1213#####
Automated Activation Line: 1-321-321-7896 Enter DoD ID: ##### and DOB: 01/01/####	MHS GENESIS Patient Portal
In-Person at the Lobby Kiosk 	In-Person at the Lobby Kiosk
Hours of Operations:	
Clinic Pharmacy	Closed
Satellite Pharmacy Lobby	0830 – 1500
Pick-up Drive thru	0730 – 1700

DosePharm Introduction Video

(Scan the QR Code)



(See Next Page)

DosePharm Activation

Step 1: Select "Pharmacy" on the main page



Pharmacy

Step 2: Select "Activate your Rx" or "Activate Dependent Rx"

	Activate your Rx
	Activate Dependent Rx

Step 3: Select "On-Base" or "Off-Base" Provider at the top of the page

<input type="radio"/> On-Base Provider <input type="radio"/> Off-Base Provider	
	Patient's First Name: Junior
	Patient's Last Name: Johnson
	Date of Birth: 1987-03-05
	DoD ID: 1234554321
	Phone Number: 983-388-3323
	Pickup Location: PATRICK

Step 4: Verify the patient's information

Step 5: List all your medications to activate

	List all your medications to activate: Flonase, Zyrtec, Albuterol inhaler
	List Provider(s) Name: Dr. Smith

Step 6: List Provider(s) Name

Step 7: Select "Submit". Wait for a message confirming your request.

New Activation	
Junior J: Your new/renewed prescription(s) have been received by Patrick SFB pharmacy staff. You will receive a notification with updates on your prescription status.	
<input type="button" value="Cancel"/>	
<input type="button" value="View"/>	

VyStar Foundation is a proud sponsor of MOAACC

On behalf of The Military Officers Association of America (MOAACC), we extend our heartfelt gratitude for VyStar Foundation's support of The Good Deeds Foundation, allowing us to continue our mission of service and camaraderie. As Vice President of the Good Deeds Foundation and a VyStar member for four decades I am proud of their unwavering support of the military community. Thank you for standing with us as we serve and support those who have served our nation.

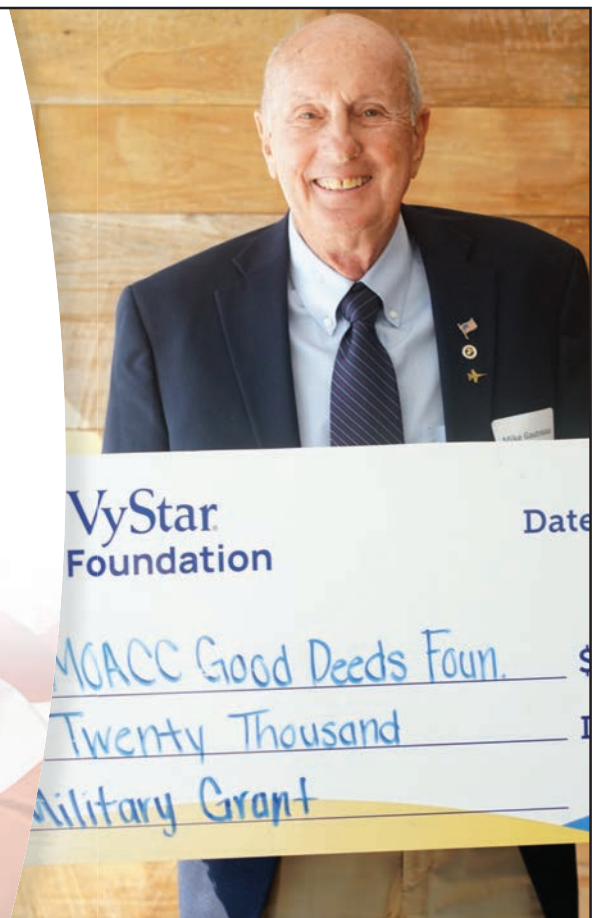
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VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER UPDATE

Christmas Magic for Veterans' Families



American Legion Aux Unit 344 brings Christmas spirit to vet families in need.



Mystery Santa with AUX 344 Leaders.

Just before Christmas, the Veterans Memorial Center based American Legion Aux Unit 344 hosted Santa and provided great food and gifts to more than 35 parents and Children in veteran families living on the edge, at their annual Christmas Party. This time the even was held at an alternate location from the VMC due to scheduling conflicts. For the fourth year in a row, MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) provided a portion of the funding costs. Taking care of veterans and their children in need is a big part of the VMC and GDF Missions.

Hopefully this event, and many more around the county made for better holidays for many facing challenging economic times.

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Dot And Lam Hardman Family Foundation Inc Donation for MOAACC's JROTC MOAA Medal Award Grants



MOAACC Member Amir Pishdad Jr., LCDR USN (ret) received a check in the amount of \$7,500.00 from **Dot And Lam Hardman Family Foundation Inc** for MOAACC's JROTC MOAA Medal Award Grants.

The awards will be presented at the MOAACC April 2025 Luncheon.

Pictured on the left, L-R: Amir Pishdad Jr., Steve Cusick and Donn Weaver

Patrick Space Force Base, FL Suspends Trusted Traveler Program

Effective immediately, the Trusted Traveler program has been suspended at Patrick SFB and Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Florida, until further notice.

The program allowed valid cardholders with escort authority to vouch for people riding in the same vehicle with them without having to obtain pre-clearance approvals. For installation visitors, the program's suspension means that drivers with certain types of DoD ID cards are no longer able to vouch for all passengers in their vehicle.

- Everyone 16 years of age or older will need to show a DoD or military ID card or obtain a [visitor's pass](#).
- Members in housing who currently have family members visiting will be required to get visitor passes and all new visitors will require passes.
- Golfers with an annual base pass can no longer bring or sponsor additional visitors.
- Food delivery drivers without base access will not be authorized base access. All food deliveries will be picked up at the East Gate.
- Event Bright tickets for launches will be terminated.
- Disabled veterans who have a CCSFS and/or PSFB registered Veteran Health Identification Card will be permitted access to the installation.
- Employees with a Defense Biometric Identification Data System registered badge for CCSFS and/or PSFB will be permitted access to the installation.

This U.S. Northern Command directive to suspend this program was taken out of an abundance of caution to ensure the safety and security of our personnel, residents, and visitors. Visitors accessing the base are advised to be prepared for additional screening protocols. There are currently no known threats to the installations.

For visitor pass information, please visit the [PSFB Visitor Control Center website](#) or call the Visitor Control Center.

Patrick SFB Visitor Control Center: 321-494-0427

Cape Canaveral SFS Visitor Control Center: 321-494-5261

For questions regarding the program suspension, please contact 45th Base Defense Operations Center at 321-494-2008.



The Space Launch Delta 45 Trusted Traveler Program has been suspended as of Jan. 3, 2025

MOAACC Supports NOTU 1QFY25 Sailors of the Quarter

By: LCDR Dan Levy, USN (former)



Dan Levy (L) presents awards to MT2 Klob (C) and MT1 Hilliard (R)

On Wednesday, January 15th, MOAACC participated in the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU) Mission Partners Social and Quarterly Awards Ceremony held at the Greenhouse at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. MOAACC members in attendance included Lt Col Joe Tichich, USAF, LCDR Dean Schaaf, USN, and LCDR Dan Levy, USN. MOAACC presented certificates of recognition and \$1000 awards each to the 1QFY25 Junior and Senior Sailors of the Quarter:

MT2(SS) James Klob and MT1(SS) Zachary Hilliard. The event was hosted by NOTU Commanding Officer CAPT Jason Schneider, USN, who highlighted the accomplishments of the two awardees while recognizing the community support by MOAACC and all the Mission Partners. In addition, NOTU used the opportunity to mark their 75th (diamond) anniversary of the command and its predecessor units. MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation issued the cash awards. The next event is set for April 16, 2025, at 3pm. If you are interested in attending, please contact Dan Levy.



L-R: MT2 Klob, MT1 Hilliard, and NOTU CO CAPT Schneider with ceremonial cake cutting

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Every day is Veterans Day at One Senior Place and its trusted affiliate, Senior Partner Care Services. On site, you'll find a full-time VITAS veterans liaison, a large selection of veterans benefits & resources and your personal invitation to our annual salute to veterans event!

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Vacant

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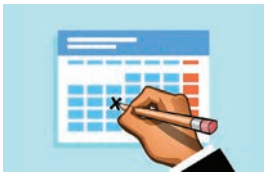
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Patrick AFB, FL 32925-4708

MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation

PO Box 320358

Cocoa Beach, FL 32932



Unofficial Brevard VMC Vets Calendar

FEBRUARY 2025 AND BEYOND

Contact VMC for any additions or other information.

NOTE: Some Events Change in-between our monthly mailing of the VMC Calendar.

Keep up to date with those changes using our web link:

<https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/upcoming-veterans-events/>

Contact donnweaver2020@gmail.com for more information or to participate.

FEBRUARY 2025

01-02 Feb — Ground Hog Day Fundraiser for St Francis Reflections Foundation to support Veterans and others at Chez Cani, 6375 N. Wickham Rd, Melbourne 1200-2100. Join the fun for great food, treats and to purchase limited edition pint glasses with a presentation of all sales going to the SFR Foundation. Make a reservation for meals or just stop by. Bring friends and family, In France they also celebrate "La Chandeleur" as the midway point of winter before spring just as we hope the groundhog will forecast a shorter winter. **01 Feb** — County wide JROTC Air Rifle Run and Shoot Competing at VMC Memorial Park. 0700-1200. Hosted by Satellite HS JROTC.

02 Feb — Annual Ceremony to Commemorate the Immortal Four Chaplains of WWII. VMC Plaza 1400-1500. Marine Corps League and VMC Sponsors and Presents.

08 Feb — Annual Pioneer Day Celebration at Sam's House and St Luke's Church off North Courtenay on Merritt Island, 1000-1600 hours with vendors, troupers, food, music and more. Looking for vendors. Contact Museums of Brevard Members and Sam's House for more information.

15 Feb — Annual Commemoration of the WWII Bataan Death March at VMC Park 0700-1100. Air Force and Space Force JROTC units only come together for a long ruck March to remember this tragic chapter in American military history and reflect on the sacrifice of our prisoners of war.

22 Feb — Young Eagles Flight Rally for kids and grandkids 8-12 from Gold Star, Wounded Veteran and similar First Responder Families 0900-1200. Merritt Island Airport S. Courtney Road entrance with signs to the EAA Hangar. EAA organization and pilots are the Sponsors. Free Flights for the kids selected in FAA approved aircraft. Parents or Guardians must register online starting 08 Feb. Contact Donn Weaver 757-871-6576 for more information. Registration details announced in early February.

22 Feb — Back Brevard Heroes Car Show Fundraiser 1000-1500 in the UHaul and Mall Parking Spaces of Merritt Square Mall.

22 Feb — JROTC District Drill Meet at VMC Park 0700-1200. See many teams compete in Color Guard, Squad and Platoon drills.

22 Feb — USAF JROTC Statewide Drill meet for Air/Space Force programs at Melbourne HS 0800-1300.

27 Feb — Honor America Awards Ceremony 1800-2100 at the Grand Manor on Sarno Road in Eau Gallie. Sponsored by

the Liberty Bell Museum this dinner recognizes outstanding volunteers in the community. Dean Schaaf, VMC President is among the Awardees this year. Reserve your dinner and place through libertybellmuseum.org.

28 Feb — Every Day is Veterans Day 1000-1330 at the at the Space Coast Center for Collaboration on Rt 1 in Rockledge. RSVPs will be called after 15 January. Many vendors, veteran info booths, food and drinks and much more to honor and celebrate veterans. Sponsored by One Senior Place. Contact Angie Higgins of One Senior Place at 321- 751-6771 for more info and to RSVP. This event was set for last fall, but along came MILTON.

MARCH 2025

08 Mar — JROTC District Drill Meet with hundreds of cadets in competition in five events. VMC Park 0700-1200.

15 Mar — Annual Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War Celebration at VMC Plaza. Sponsored and staged by the Brevard Sons of the American Revolution with assistance from VMC and MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation.

29 March — JROTC District Championship Drill Meet at VMC Park 0700-1300. State Championship Qualifier.

APRIL 2025

11 Apr — 4th Annual Golf Tournament Hosted by National Veterans Homeless Support (NVHS) and Sponsored by Northrup Grumman Management Club. Rockledge Country Club 0800- 1300 with Scramble Start. Proceeds Support NVHS 2025 Missions. Prizes and sponsorships available. \$100 per player registration fee. Win a New Car with a Hole in One. Sign up to play or sponsor at: nvhs.org/events

MAY 2025

04 May — Back Brevard Hero Fest VMC Plaza 1000-1600. Details in March.

For further upcoming events, visit

<https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/upcoming-veterans-events/>

Please help us spread the word and advise of any new events.

Donn Weaver
BVC Immediate Past Chair
Veterans Memorial Center
donnweaver2020@gmail.com

Great Competition among JROTC Air Rifle Teams

By: Donn Weaver, CPT USA (fmr)

Starting in mid-December 2024 all 14 JROTC programs, regardless of branch of service affiliation, began county and district wide Air Rifle Shooting Competitions. The first Invitational Tournament was hosted at Palm Bay Magnet High School and its Marine JROTC Unit led by SgtMaj Roy DeYoung, USMC, Ret. Nine schools showed up just before the Christmas Holidays to compete.

This year the USAF and USSF JROTC programs are also staging service centric Rifle Meets with GDF again covering the trophies. In early February at least 10 of the JROTC programs are expected to come together for a unique and fun event, called "Run and Shoot" at Veterans Memorial Park. The cadets must run one mile with ruck and rifle, they are then scored and timed for target shooting outdoors using hay bales.

Each winter most of Brevard's 14 High School JROTC programs compete in Air Rifle Marksmanship Competition among themselves and in some cases far beyond our county. Among the best of the JROTC Rifle Teams has been for many years the Palm Bay Jr/Sr Magnet High School Marine JROTC Cadets. On 10-11 January they hosted the Commanders Cup Championship Meet with Army, Air Force, Space Force and even a couple of other county schools attending.

Palm Bay is home to the best Indoor Rifle Range Building in the area which was built on 2022-23 using a special BPS and State grant. MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) provided funding in 2023-24 for targets and other equipment on two of the ten lanes and covers the costs of all medals, ribbons, and trophies for all JROTC Rifle meets at any school. Most schools use their cafeterias to set up ranges, but Rockledge also has a stand-alone room for the Rifle Team for which also funded by GDF with \$1000 in 2023 to resurface the 60-year-old floor!!

Other schools have been working hard to field good rifle teams and improve their own facilities to help them do so. Most have to borrow cafeteria or other space on the weekends to practice, but Rockledge and Heritage JROTC programs also got help recently to refurbish their existing ranges. Rockledge resurfaced the 1961 floor of what was then the old Cocoa High School and Heritage is upgrading their targets and other equipment as well.

At least five Brevard JROTC Air Rifle Teams are expected to qualify for the State championships coming up soon, but most will be chasing Palm Bay. Led by two teams of four made up of mostly sharpshooting female cadets, Palm Bay has completed state qualifications and will shoot for the Marine JROTC National title in Anniston, AL in mid-February. They are currently ranked 3rd in the region and 11th among the Marine units in the entire nation.

Perhaps most surprising is the rapid improvement of the Space Force JROTC Rifle Teams at Space Coast High School. They have upgraded targets and their facility with donations which have helped them excel this year. As a result, SCHS JROTC Rifle Teams have qualified for the State USAF Air Rifle Championship in late January and the National USAF JROTC Championship in Mid-February.

JROTC programs raise funds for such teams from many sources including car washes, parent groups, and others. The Good Deeds Foundation of the MOAA Cape Canaveral Chapter is among their largest donors with over an average of \$4500 per school in the 2024-25 school year. GDF also supported floor resurfacing at target upgrades at four schools this year.

Continued success to all JROTC Air Rifle teams as the community continues to support one of the best JROTC programs in the State and, perhaps, the country. Thanks to all JROTC Instructors and schools for supporting our youth enrolled in JROTC which now averages close to 150 students in all 14 high schools.



Medals and Trophies



Prone Shoot Line up

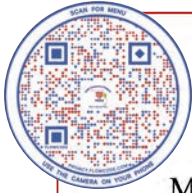


Kneeling Shoot



Standing Shoot

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REMEMBERING The Four Immortal Chaplains of World War II



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—Includes Reenactment and the Full Story
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MOC

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Florida Council Of Chapters Leadership Seminar and Fundraiser 2025

The FL-COC Held an outstanding Leadership Training & Convention 17-19 January at the Rosen Center in Orlando, FL. The event featured, Chapter Leader Training, Remembering those we lost in 2024, Casino Night Charity Fundraiser for The MOAA Foundation; Awards Presentations, MOAA Dinner and MORE – For all MOAA Members and Guests. The Casino night was a resounding success and \$ 5500.00 was raised for the MOAA Foundation.



Gen. Kelly President of the MOAA addresses the council.



Gen. Kelly (L) addresses the attendees while COL Steve Bond (R) introduces.



CAPT Steve Cusick, MOAACC President receives FCOC-Award.
L-R: Gen. Kelly, Steve Cusick, Steve Bond, Lorraine Holland



COL Mike Schroeder, MOAACC Treasurer and Webmaster, receives FCOC-Excellence Award. L-R: Gen. Kelly, Mike Schroeder, Steve Bond



FCOC-President Steve Bond



MOAACC Sponsored Blackjack table wins big



Winning Table with MOAACC Members



Gen. Kelly (L) receives the \$5500 check for MOAA Foundation from the FL-COC Leadership (L-R) Pat Kluever (Convention Coordinator & IPP), Steve Bond (Pres. FCOC), Tom Wagner (Casino Meister), Amanda Centers (MOAA VP for Development--The MOAA Foundation and Scholarships), Tony LaVecchia (Council VP).



Gen. Kelly Thanks the FL-COC for excellent seminar and raising \$5000 for MOAA Foundation



Members of the Mighty MOAACC in attendance at the Leadership Seminar. L-R: Brian Whalen, Mike Schroeder, Liz Whalen, Lisa Schroeder, Jean Cusick, Rosa Reich, Steve Cusick, Ellie Joy, Hans Hunt, Steve Bond, Jane Bond.

Honoring the 39th President of the United States



Jane Hodges at the Carter Center where President Carter laid in repose.



Jane Hodges in Plains, the birthplace and final resting place of the Carter.

Dr. Jane Hodges had the opportunity to honor our late President Jimmy Carter at the Carter Center in Atlanta on January 7, 2025. The moving tribute to actually share a moment of silence with his flag draped casket will be a moment she will never forget. As a Docent at the Carter Center, an Emory Law School alumnus, and former Georgia state employee, Dr. Hodges often interacted with President Carter. She followed his career since his presidential days when she first met him to her last interaction at his 96th birthday party. Dr. Hodges followed the Atlanta events, TV coverage in Washington DC, culminating to his final resting place in Plains. She spent the last day of the six-day tributes at the Plains High School Museum and visiting historical sites of the Carters. Jane remembers “Jimmy”, as he asked to be addressed, as an honorable Christian humanitarian, who left the world a better place. As a true partner with his wife of 77 years, Roselynn also advocated for children’s rights, when Jane worked at the Georgia Department of Education, where she had the opportunity to work with this amazing woman. Jane also recalls the moment she paid tribute to Roselynn as her casket lay in repose at the Carter Center. President Carter often spoke at the Carter Center and Emory, where he was a visiting professor, and Jane had the opportunity to hear him share his humanitarian work. Most notably was the eradication of Guinea Worm and the tremendous work he did in Nigeria, where Jane volunteered for a year in the villages of the Niger Delta. He will also be remembered for his post presidency work as a true American hero. Rest in Peace Jimmy and Roselynn.



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The 242nd Commemoration of
**The Last Naval Battle
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Saturday, March 15, 2025

Veteran's Memorial Center

400 S Sykes Creek PKY, M.I., FL

1000-1100 a.m.

**Presented by the Sons, Daughters, and
Children of the American Revolution**



The Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War took place off the Florida Coast, south of Cape Canaveral on March 10, 1783.

The fight began when three British ships sighted two Continental Navy ships, the Alliance commanded by Captain John Barry and the Duc De Lauzun commanded by Captain John Green sailing northward along the east coast of Florida. The Alliance, a 36-gun frigate and the Duc De Lauzun, a 20-gun ship, were loaded with 72,000 Spanish silver dollars they were bringing from Havana, Cuba to Philadelphia to support the Continental Army. One of the British ships, the HMS Sybil, a 28-gun frigate, commanded by Captain James Vashon, chased the Alliance and the Duc De Lauzun to the south. The HMS Sybil fired first, exchanging shots with the slower Duc De Lauzun. Then in a daring strategy Captain John Barry, aboard the Alliance, reversed course, and while under fire, positioned his ship between the HMS Sybil and Duc De Lauzun. When the Alliance was alongside the Sybil and within 1/2 pistol range the Alliance returned fire with a greater number of canon. The battle lasted less than an hour, with the HMS Sybil, outgunned and badly damaged, broke off from the battle and fled. The Alliance and Duc De Lauzun continued on their mission at dawn on March 11, 1783.



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