



The INTERCOM

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc.



MOAA National Director Visits MOAACC Chapter



CAPT Erin Stone receives a symbolic Chapter Coin and appreciation plaque from Chapter Past President, COL Steve Bond (USA, Retired) at Right and Chapter 1st Vice President, Lt Col Brian Whelan (USAF, Ret) at Left.



On November 3rd, CAPT Erin Stone (JAGC USN, Ret), MOAA National's Senior Director of Councils and Chapters, addressed the membership at our Thursday Morning Business Meeting. She gave an update on MOAA National and thanked the chapter for its work in our chapter area. Following TMBC, there was an informal meeting with her and TMBC attendees, then a roundtable discussion with Chapter Officers and Board Members, followed by a lunch in Colony Hall

MOAACC PHOTOS BY PISH PISHDAD

DECEMBER EVENTS

(Click Event for Details)

- 12/1 TMBC @ (In person & via Zoom)
- 12/2 Retiree Information Forum (In-person & via Zoom)
- 12/2 MOAACC Annual Christmas Dinner
- 12/8 TMBC @ (In person & via Zoom)
- 12/8 MOAACC Surviving Spouses/ Spouses Christmas Tea
- 12/10 MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation's Veterans and Military Support Golf Tournament
- 12/13 On-The-Go Luncheon at The Dove III Restaurant
- 12/15 TMBC @ (In person & via Zoom)
- 12/15 MOAACC Board of Directors Meeting
- 12/22 TMBC @ (In person & via Zoom)
- 12/29 TMBC @ (In person & via Zoom)

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

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

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



CDR Ken Lowe, USNR Ret

On November 15, 2022, MOAACC held its Business Meeting and election of 2023 chapter leadership. As not every member attended, I'll recap it here. The full presentation is online at 2022 Business Meeting

We are the largest, and without a doubt, best, most active Chapter in MOAA! We make a difference — Nationally, locally, and for our members.

MOAACC continues to receive MOAA awards of excellence, e.g., COL Martin J. Harris Communications Award and Five-Star Level of Excellence Chapter Award for 2021. Accomplishments include MOAA's Foundation Community Grant to assist area Vets-in-Need and hosting MOAA's CAPT Erin Stone JAGC, USN (Ret), Senior Director, Council and Chapter Affairs for a National Chapter Visit that went extremely well.

Our Legislative Affairs Committee monitors both MOAA National advocacy efforts and State/Local actions and then coordinates Chapter advocacy via Intercom, Five Things, and Website.

Members are encouraged to sign up on MOAA's New Legislative Action Center and take action when asked. MOAA is increasing emphasis in this area for LOE scoring.

Your Chapter is fiscally sound. However, we are experiencing a decline in membership with rising expenses which may require an increase in dues in the future. This can be avoided by adding new members and more advertisers. Every member needs to focus on recruiting at least one new member. Membership retention is an area we are focused on as well as increasing member participation.

MOAACC Scholarship Corporation is fiscally stable and has expanded eligibility to include PhD students. Our Good Deeds Foundation provided grants of \$82,075 during their FY2022 ending in September and \$21,500 to date for FY2023. Funds supported about 1,000 people to include JROTC, storm relief, active-duty families, NVHS, and Honor Flight. Their charity Golf Tournament is December 10th.

Our Volunteers are our strength, and we need more members to become actively involved! Many committees are one person deep, and they can use your help.

While our Chapter is Good, with some effort we can be better and make an even bigger impact! Members: recruit a member, volunteer get involved, and take action on legislative issues.

The 2023 leadership slate was elected and will be installed during January 17, 2023 luncheon.

Wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Toni and me.

EDITOR'S CORNER

ATTENTION, PLEASE **Guidelines for Article Submission**

PHOTOS:

Please limit photos to one or two photos per article. More can be included if absolutely necessary. When sending photos, please be sure to send photos at **full-size** as **email attachments**. Do not send photos within the body of the article. Please also name your photo files appropriately, and note necessary captions.

ARTICLES:

The preferred format is Microsoft Word. Include the article title and writer's name at the top of the page. PDF documents will not be accepted.

Articles written in the body of an email are not recommended, but will be accepted. Please be sure to only send one article at a time. Do not combine multiple articles in the same email. If special instructions are included for the article, please take care to implement a clear separation between the article and the instructions.

Limit articles to **375 words or less**. Longer articles will be split, and continued in the online section. (Please only send one version of your article, as the online version is a continuation of the print version.)

DEADLINE:

**Inputs are due NLT the third Friday of the month.
(Early input is greatly appreciated!)**

Please read the "Call for Input" email every month for updates or changes.

Join MOAACC: All retired and former military officer, warrant officers and spouses from all branches of service including the USPHS and NOAA are eligible to join. See application form page 20.

Health of the Chapter

Do you know of a member who is ill, in the hospital or in rehab?

Let Mary Dunagan know and she will be happy to send them a card from the chapter.

Mary E. Dunagan • 321-775-3896 • kwaj13@aol.com



PR/M CHAIRMAN

Special thanks to Rita Shapiro and Amir Pishdad, Sr., for their increasing roles to support the Intercom. Speaking of Intercom and the Public Relations and Marketing roles with MOAACC, after nine years I will be turning over both tasks to others in the new year. As with any volunteer position we all sometimes have to cut back. My MOAACC role in 2023 will focus on being President of the Good Deeds Foundation hoping that volunteers to take over will come forward. I ask that anyone interested please call me for more details.

As always, thanks to our great PR/M team noted below.

Articles can be submitted at any time to:

moaaccintercom@greenmancreations.com.

If they are received too late, the next month is right around the corner. Please call me if you have any ideas or questions. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Donn Weaver, 757-871-6576.

For correspondence to the editor and **article submission** please use the following email address:

moaaccintercom@greenmancreations.com

Please Note: The editor cannot accept PDF documents for **The Intercom**. If you have something which you would like to see submitted in the news magazine, please call me and we can discuss what can be done.

Please remember also to send any correspondence **which is not a submission for the Intercom to Public Relations Chair, Donn Weaver at 757-871-6576 or donnweaver2020@gmail.com**

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Vacant

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321-960-6877

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VACANT

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NOMINATING (Leadership-2023)

Pending

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Toni Lowe, SpM
(321) 474-6888

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321-757-0193

THURSDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

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321-474-6889

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757-871-6576

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MOAACC**Good Deeds Foundation**

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Cocoa Beach, FL 32932

**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS****John R. McMahon, USA Ret****Unfinished Business**

The pundits are certainly having a heyday as they analyze and attempt to explain the recently concluded (almost) 2022 midterm elections, but the ultimate and obvious conclusion is we are heading into the next two-year period with split control of the Congress with the Democrats retaining control of the Senate and the Republicans taking the House.

This will have serious consequences in several aspects of national legislative affairs:

- First, any thought of achieving an ambitious Biden agenda is gone, limited mostly to judicial appointments given the Senate role to advise and consent on them by a simple majority vote.
- Second, Given the "scant Republican majority" and the multiple side deals (read power sharing); electing Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) as the next Speaker of the House is a challenge.
- Third, whatever might be achieved over the course of next two years will be greatly limited and an outcome of compromises made across party lines and concurrence with the closely split Senate—in short, bi-partisanship! This is not a bad word in my lexicon and we can only hope they find a way.

What the House Republican priorities will be is an open question but judging from various Members' statements, these will likely include investigations (largely a big waste of time), and getting spending under control. There are also expiring tax cuts and a Democratic push to revive payments to low-income families with children. Some Members have expressed a desire to compromise in response to what they perceive to be the will of the voters for Congress to "work together in some areas but not continue on the path we were on". We shall wait and see.

Before we even get into the new Congress in early January 2023, the current "lame duck" Congress has lot of unfinished business to tackle with high stakes for the finicky economy. First, there is a December 16th deadline on the Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA) which funds the government. This could be resolved with another short-term CRA which pushes the ultimate solution to the new Congress or a spending OMNIBUS bill that covers government operations through the end of the fiscal year, 30 Sep 2023. That would be optimal and was used in the last fiscal year. Without either one of these approaches, the government will shut down once again, something that should be avoided at all costs.

Next is the ever-present and growing national debt whose ceiling must be extended once again or suspended (highly unlikely since it leaves the Republicans with no leverage) or the government defaults. Although the debt ceiling milestone does not occur until later in 2023, from economic perspective, earlier resolution of this is better than later. Alternatively, the Democrats may attempt to resolve the issue using the sledgehammer approach known as reconciliation but it is not clear if sufficient time remains for the current Congress to apply it. This means a longer-

Continued in the online section, on page 28

MOAACC Receives the MOAA Five Star Level of Excellence Award



During MOAA's annual membership meeting in Kansas City, MO, Chapter President CDR Ken Lowe USNR (Ret) (center) accepts MOAA Five Star Level of Excellence Award from LtGen Dana Atkins USAF (Ret), MOAA President and Chief Executive Officer (left) and Gen. Walter Sharp, USA (Ret) MOAA Chairman of the Board (right).



Mark Your Calendar!

MOAACC Spouses Christmas Tea

The MOAACC Surviving Spouses are hosting their annual Christmas Tea on Thursday, December 8th at 2pm at The At Ease Club at Indian River Colony Club. This is open to all MOAACC Spouses.

This is a wonderful way to start the holiday season. We will be having an English Tea and entertainment. The price is \$24.00.

Space is limited, so make your reservations no later than Monday, December 5th. For information and reservations, please call Ellie Joy (321) 757-0193.

MOAACC On-The-Go Luncheon

Tuesday, December 13, 2022
The Dove III Restaurant
836 E. New Haven Ave.
Melbourne, FL 32901

SPACE COAST NAVY WIVES

Please join us for our annual Christmas Lunch/Party at THE TIDES on **Friday, December 9th**. Please note the date change, as this is a week earlier than are regular lunches. We will have a social hour starting at 11:30am and lunch will be served at noon.

Our entertainment will be Showtime Entertainment with Robbie Cafuero. We are so excited to have them back. We will be singing Christmas songs, perhaps some oldies but goodies and requests. And then of course Navy and Army songs to get in the mood for the big game on the following day. It will be a toe tapping time.

Our menu choices are Grilled Steak, mashed potatoes and green beans or Grilled Mahi with pineapple salsa, jasmine rice and glazed carrots. Our dessert will be Key Lime Pie.

For information and to make reservations, please call Phyllis Banks no later than noon, Tuesday, December 6th at (321) 783-7028.

Remember friends and family are always invited and what a great way to start the holidays.



MEMBERSHIP BRIEF

Welcome 5 new members:

Larry E Wright, AF Capt, former (Ken Lowe)

Bob Sieck, AF Capt, Retired, (Jane Hodges)

John McMorrough, CDR, US Navy, Retired (Bob Selick/Jane Hodges)

Surviving Spouses:

Bernadette Lachance, Betty Eglinton



POINTS TO PONDER

Ch, LtCol, Tom Unrath

This time of year, the hours of light in each day shorten. In our hemisphere it gets colder. Of course, here in FL the effects are much less than my last assignment in ND. I suspect the reason we have “snowbirds” flocking to this area is to escape those harsher climes.

I recall the effects of seasonal affective disorder which could really hit some folks hard. We were told to have blizzard kits: shovel, kitty litter, MREs, matches, extra warm clothes, tire chains or cables, etc. in our vehicles. Military issued clothing was laughable if you arrived in the summer, but the need became clearly evident by November. We all sought heat and light.

This need for light is a universal need in the dark hours of winter. I suppose that is why so many religious holidays this time of year focus our attention on light.

Christians celebrate the coming of Christmas with the season of Advent. A new candle is lit each week on the Advent wreath. Christmas lights and decorations go up. Trees are festooned with lights.

Channukah is a celebration of light. Jewish people remember the miracle of one day's worth of oil keeping the Menorah lit for eight days in the desecrated Temple until the Rituals of Blessing could be completed.

We just went through the celebration of Diwali, a Hindu festival of great mirth, color, and light.

These are but three examples of our need to keep light in our lives.

As members of MOAACC we are called to “Never Stop Serving.” How does our service this time of year bring light? As a group we do help others through our “Good Deeds Foundation.” We offer speakers to inform and edify school classes and other groups.

How do we do as individuals? - There are opportunities that come throughout the year but may be seen little more frequently during these days. We can visit those who have a

hard time getting out. We can share our time and presence with those who have lost loved ones recently (or not so recently). We often give gifts to those we love, both family and friends. We can open ourselves to acts of reconciliation and forgiveness, to heal divisions, and to lighten burdens of simmering anger and resentment. We can bring words and deeds of caring and of hope to those who seem forlorn.

As we get older, we often see that the life is a fleeting thing. Let us then do our best to keep our days as days of light, warmth, and caring.

TAPS

MOAA CAPE CANAVERAL CHAPTER MEMBER, AUXILIARY, and SPOUSE DEATHS

Reported 1 Oct 2022 thru 31 Oct 2022:

(Names listed in chronological order of date of death)

Gaston R. Knight, Lt Col, USAF Ret.
6 October 2022

Andre L. Lachance, Col, USAF Ret.
19 October 2022

Joan England, Spouse of Don England,
CAPT, USN Ret.
22 October 2022

Donna Panzek, Spouse of John T. Panzek, Lt Col,
USAF Ret.
22 October 2022

Georgina Stewart, Spouse of Paul F. Stewart, Lt
Col, USAF Ret.
28 October 2022

Ann M. Bush, SSM
29 October 2022

Last Death on the September 2022 Taps List:

Ellen Terrell, SSM
24 September 2022



FINANCIAL LITERACY

John C. Murphy, COL (Ret)

THE AIRPLANE WILL

This is not an article on estate planning for pilots. The “Airplane Will” refers to the last-minute “stop-gap” estate plan update for clients who are about to take a trip. Most attorneys who do estate planning are familiar with this syndrome, where a client has procrastinated for years in updating their estate plan, and suddenly is motivated by an impending trip (or other crisis) to get it updated. The client often calls only days before the travel, and needs it to be done overnight.

The implications are enormous, and bear some thought ...

- a. A last-minute estate plan is rushed and all options are not explained and discussed.
- b. It is considered as a “stop-gap” plan, with the client’s promise that after the crisis (travel or whatever) they will come back to do the job right, and the clients are lulled into a false sense of security.
- c. In reality, the client’s sense of crisis is relieved, and they seldom come back to do the complete job. Many critical decisions are ignored in the interest of haste:
- d. The overall plan may be overly simplified, ignoring the benefits of a trust/will, health care directives, Powers of Attorney, Living Wills and Pre Need Guardians because the client won’t have time to review them.
- e. Short-changing the consideration of fiduciaries, such as trustee, personal representative and attorney in fact and their backups. In such situations, no time is spent thoughtfully vetting the possibilities and doing the necessary research to select the best options.
- f. For your selected fiduciaries, likely you will need to educate them as to your accounts and bills with a secure way to share your user IDs and passwords.
- g. If you are doing last minute estate planning most likely you also need to update all your beneficiary designations to life insurance and retirement accounts.

This article is encouragement to do your estate planning now before some unexpected event occurs. Take the time to get your estate plan in order before your next trip. Have a Happy New Year!



**GO
DIGITAL!**

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**Click Here to Contact MOAACC
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web**

**Visit our MOAACC Chapter website:
www.moaacc.org**



SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE LESSONS LEARNED

Lt Col Chuck Shaw, USAF, (Ret)

The MOAACCC Survivor Assistance Team has had the great privilege of helping a lot of Surviving Spouses get through some very difficult times. I wondered what the single greatest cause of difficulties Surviving Spouses had to deal with. It was getting the death certificates to accurately document the cause of death and any contributing causes. It would seem like it would be very straightforward for the physician that signed the death certificate to be aware of the actual cause of death AND any contributing causes, but unfortunately, far too often that is not the case.

If that doctor was not the primary care doctor for the deceased, the only contact with the deceased may have been when the person showed up in the ER, or the Hospice facility. They end up knowing what the actual cause of death was, but have no real history on the deceased to know that there may have been illnesses that were contributing causes.

So, the doctor does not know to put that information in the "Contributing Causes" section of the long form death certificate. They need to know that VA needs this information to connect any VA Presumptive illnesses to things like exposure to Agent Orange to approve benefits claims for the Survivor. The fix for that is **the Funeral Director makes certain that the person signing the certificate is aware of the need to fill that information in**, and has documentation given to him/her from the doctors treating the deceased proving the deceased was being treated. The best way to do that is to get signed and notarized copies of medical records beforehand to provide to the Funeral Director to then provide to the signing doctor.

This needs to be done BEFORE the paperwork is submitted to the state of Florida to get copies of the death certificates. The stress and anxiety are already high during that time, and the hassle of the process to amend the original death certificate can be very debilitating for the Survivor. Spare them that, by simply making sure the people signing the certificate have all the info they need beforehand!



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Brenda Rodriguez / Anthony Velez
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Brenda.Rodriguez@cigna.com
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VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER EVENTS & UPDATE

Dean Schaaf and Donn Weaver

November was amazing at the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center. Events included the final District Championship of the JROTC Raider Challenge with 9 schools and 160 cadets competing for the right to attend the State Championship in December. A Boy Scout campout and flag retirement program along with the construction of the largest Brevard Parks and Rec playground with a military theme took place. A partner of MOAACC and the VMC, St Francis Reflections Lifestage Care hosted a 5K fundraiser with 174 runners and many sponsors which made it a great success.

Finally, the VMC 2022 Veterans Day Ceremony (details reported below) made for a very special month. Some more good news came just before Thanksgiving when the County Commission approved the design of a magnificent Amphitheater to be built in VMC's Veterans Memorial Park in the Fall of 2023. The supporting infrastructure including power, irrigation, lighting, more restrooms, a food service facility and exercise stations along the 5k VMP pathway, should begin in early 2023.



Artists rendition to scale approved and now in bidding process.

MOAACC Members are active at VMC events and more than 20 have joined the Council and Center at \$100 for a lifetime membership. Check it out.

WHY JOIN MOAACC?

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What Hurricane?

VMC 2022 Veterans Day Celebration of Veterans Throughout History a Big Success

As Hurricane Nicole hovered over Brevard County on 10 November, things did not look promising for Veterans Day Ceremonies. Many were cancelled or postponed. It might have dampened the numbers. but not the spirit that came to life under blues skies.

More than 250 people attended the 11 November Veterans Day Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Center on Merritt Island. They enjoyed some very good messages from VMC President Dean Schaaf and USCG Station Commander CWO2 Phillip Dawalt about what veterans have done for our country since the American Revolution, but also numerous action events within the ceremony including:

- A Parade of Colors featuring the Brevard Marine Corps League, Courageous Division Sea Cadets, Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution, Civil War and Rolling Thunder without Vietnam Era regalia
- Dedication of The Patriot 250 Year Monument by Daughters of the American Revolution
- Re-Dedication and Rifle volley of the Civil War Monument by descendants of Union veterans
- Dedication of a new Tree for the 1973 POW/MIA Brevard Plaque
- Awarding two Quilts of Valor to a USAF veteran couple who served during recent conflicts
- Art and portrait photography show from Merritt Island HS art students in the museum
- Unveiling granite engravings for Elevation and Georgiana Churches that gave the VMC more than \$25,000 in 2022
- A low level flyover of the Huey Helicopter of Vietnam and beyond fame by the BCSO air unit.

It was indeed a great Veterans Day at VMC and many other places this year before and after our second hurricane.

See the photos →



VMC President Dean Schaaf, the Parade of Colors and Annamarie Sant singing the National Anthem



CWO2 Phillip Dawalt, Port Canaveral USCG Station CO shares his reflections with the crowd



Lance Armstrong (l) of Rolling Thunder FL-1 and Donn Weaver, VMC VP check out the Huey double flyover which was timed to the minute for the POW/MIA Tree Dedication.



Elevation Church members with leader Danny Young in Center with white paper, along with Dean Schaaf and Donn. Weaver dedicate their granite plaque for support to VMC



Rolling Thunder, Elevation Church, Dean Schaaf Dedication the new POW/MIA Plaque and Tree



Karmel Sowers, podium, and her team award the two hand-sewn Quilts of Valor



Union Soldiers fire a fusillade with Nic Mihora at the podium commanding as they rededicate the VMC Civil War Monument.



Joel Etherton, President of the Brevard Dons of the American Revolution Chapter helps SAR and DAR members dedicate the new Patriot 250 Memorial

See more VMC highlights in the online section, starting on page 21



MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION

CPT Donn Weaver, USA, Fmr, President GDF

Deployed Troops Morale Boost Thanks to Oasis and GDF

After more than 20 years since the GWOT began, one group in Brevard County, led a mom whose son was deployed several times, has never forgotten our troops in harm's way. Four-five times per year OASIS comes together with volunteers and donors to create "Care Packages" for hundreds of deployed troops in dozens of units overseas.

Tess Brady Heribacka is the mom and leader who makes sure it happens. On 19 November at Beef O'Bradys on Merritt Island she and her many volunteers gathered to stuff holiday stockings and mail them off before the rush. For the past several years, Good Deeds Foundation of MOAACC has supported OASIS with cash donations. This year was the most ever at \$1000 to help fund shipping costs. Thank you to OASIS and its volunteers and donors for the very special project you continue to accomplish. Speaking from my own long ago and my grandson's unit's recent experience, there is nothing like getting a great care package of goodies from people who you do not know, but who really care when you are thousands of miles from home defending our country.



Tess, in the middle holding the left side of the big check, is surrounded by her OASIS team and GDF President Donn Weaver far right.

MOAACC/GDF Provides All JROTC Trophies for three Raider Challenge Meets

The final District JROTC local Raider Challenge Meet of the current school year was held at Veterans Memorial Park on Saturday 05 November. The completion between 130 cadets, 9 schools and 18 team, participating in five different events over a long morning, was amazing. Six of the high school JROTC Teams produced overall scores that qualified them to go on to the State Raider Challenge Championship in mid-December. Good Luck.

Meanwhile, the final meet produced some more relief donations from the 6 week long JROTC/VMC/Good Deeds Foundation program to help SW Florida and now flooded northern Brevard County after Hurricane Ian.

It also offered a chance to publicly confirm the MOAACC's GDF supports JROTC programs in many ways every year. All trophies for all three events, totaling over \$1700 were paid for by the Good Deeds Foundation. Without that grant, individual schools would have to provide their own funds, in this case at almost \$200 per school or separate charges to cadets and their parents. Parents applauded loudly as we presented the funds via our GDF Big Check, before the final ceremony.



Here cadets gather around the trophy table with Dan McIntyre, Viera JROTC ISG Thomas, Brian Whalen (three on right, r-l) and Donn Weaver in the center to show their appreciation.

Teamwork Wins

For the month of October, the Veterans Memorial Center (VMC) worked with Brevard JROTC Units, the Good Deeds Foundation, and other organizations to provide relief supplies to hurricane victims in SW Florida and flooding victims from Ian in Northern Brevard. Within hours of beginning to search for a driver to take, what became thousands of pounds of relief supplies in two separate 20ft rental truck runs, the VMC County Parks and Rec main contact raised his hand.

Fred Ameigh is the Parks and Rec Central coordinator and covers many parks including the VMC and Veterans Memorial Park. He wanted to use his off hours to support the project and we needed someone reliable to deliver the supplies into the unknown. Fred got a different partner for two trips in two weeks helping to load and unload the supplies as well. He even recruited dozens in his home neighborhood to raise almost one quarter of a truck full of supplies to add to what the JROTC Units and others had already contributed. GDF funded the rental trucks and all expenses totaling \$2000 for the project.

Fred is a busy guy so we decided to grab him during a visit to the VMC in early November and surprise him with the presentation of the MOAACC Challenge Coin exchanged only with trusted colleagues. Thanks, again Fred for such special work at a crucial time.



Here GDF President Donn Weaver presents the coin to Fred Ameigh via the traditional hand shake, only afterwards reminding him he owes the GDF Board a "round" if he visits one of their VMC meetings and is challenged!!

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Operation WarmHeart at PSFB Gets Biggest MOAACC/GDF Boost Ever

On 18 November the First Sergeant's Council (FSC) of Patrick Space Force Base was presented a \$6000 check from your Good Deeds Foundation (GDF). The amount was the largest ever given by MOAACC since the program began 26 years ago. In those days TROAA Cape Canaveral provided funds directly from their budget to support the FSC. It is a USSF/USAF Foundation that provides funds for junior enlisted personnel and their families in crucial financial straits; special functions; emergency travel, etc., all not available through DoD sources. GDF took over the mission in 2017 once it was charted as a 501c3 within MOAACC. Since that time until this year, FSC was provided \$5000 every year for Operation WarmHeart.

The FSC accepts the check at the PSFB Golf Club from GDF represented by (l-r) Mike Gautreaux, VP, Wayne Justice, Treasurer and Donn Weaver, President. In case you wondered, the GDF are the ones not in uniform and several decades older than the others.



This year the FSC is led by MSgt Ian Sharp, USAF. He is closest to the check!!

The FSC traditionally has helped MOAACC/GDF with the Golf Tournament and will again monitor the Hole in One Competition on 10 December. They will provide an update on their program and how the funds helped many airmen, guardians and their families next Spring. Thanks to all of them for their service to our country and another step beyond for unpaid service to their comrades.

While on PSFB we challenged the USAF and USSF to assemble a golf team or two for the GDF Tournament. They promised to do so when they heard Navy and Coast Guard Teams were signed up already!!

PS: At the same time that day, Dan McIntyre and Dean Schaaf of GDF were supporting other active duty personnel at the US Coast Guard Sailor of the Quarter award ceremony. With 12 Board members, GDF can divide our forces and support lots of missions.

Triple Impact:

Good Deeds Funds Support Honor Flight and Florida Tech Cadets and Doctoral Students

In the very early morning hours of 12 November, 30 honored veterans gathered at the Senior Center in Wickham Park to prepare to travel to see their Memorials in Wash DC aboard the final 2022 Space Coast Honor Flight (SCHF). Your Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) was there to share in the patriotism and spirit at 0200 hours, but also to provide a great boost for 2023 flights.

Over the past two years GDF has worked with SCHF President VADM James Hart and many others with SCHF and at Florida Tech to create a unique grant that directly impacts three very special organizations:

- SCHF by funding the costs of 10 Guardians to accompany the WWII, Korean War and Vietnam War veterans on 7 flights each year.
- Five Florida Tech ROTC Cadets who serve as Guardians to counterpart veterans. They will soon graduate and join the ranks of the US Army.
- Five veterans who are enrolled at Florida Tech's PHD Psychology Department who are being prepared for jobs with the VA to support veterans in their future career.



Above, GDF provided a check for 2023 for \$4000 to SCHF to cover 10 FIT Cadets and Students in 2023. (L-R) VADM Hart receives the "check" from GDF President Donn Weaver, VP Mike Gautreaux, MOAACC VP Brian Whalen and GDF Board Member Tom Rozek. SCHF's Volunteer Coordinator Lorena Duggan looks on. It was a special morning just hours after Veterans Day.

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Community Service & Philanthropy

COL Steve Bond, USA (Ret)--Speakers Bureau Chairman

MOAACC Community Service in Action!

The Chapter receive requests for our Speakers Bureau and Veterans Back to Class (VBC) program throughout the year. By far, the busiest times of the year is around Memorial and Veterans Day. The topics requested cover a wide range ,of subjects--from military experiences, history, leadership, to other civic and patriotic themes. The requests come from organizations such as for school classes, and area civic clubs and businesses for luncheons, dinners, and other special events. The requests around Memorial and Veterans Day, the requests are usually about the significance of those special days.

Our dedicated group of volunteer speakers and VBC participants offer their services as a community service to help familiarize our neighbors, including school children, with the military, the importance of service, and to share our values, experiences, and expertise. This past Veterans Day was no exception and despite dealing with a hurricane. We were out in force to recognize veterans for their service and sacrifices and remind our friends and neighbors of what it takes to earn the title of Veteran!

Nine of the Vets Back to Class (VBC) Program volunteers spoke to approximately 3,000 students on Veterans Day topics at three elementary school, two middle school and five area high schools in the county from October 25th to November 18th. Our Speaker's Bureau members supported twelve events, large and small, in the weeks leading up to Veterans Day and after. The Veterans Day events were organized by area senior living facilities, hospice and health care providers, the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center, and other veteran service and support organizations.

We are always looking for chapter members willing to serve in this important endeavor. If you would like to find out more about our Speakers Bureau or Veterans Back to Class Program, go to our website (www.MOAACC.org). For the Speakers Bureau webpage, go to MOAACC.org/about/speakers-bureau/. For the Veterans Back to Class Program, go to MOAACC.org/events/veterans-back-to-class-joe-foss-institute/. If you would like to become one of our speakers contact us at: SpeakersBureau@moaacc.org. This is a great way make a difference and show we "Never Stop Serving"!



LTC Cynthia Watkins-Pishdad (USA-Ret) sang the "Star Spangled Banner" and "An American Soldier" at the Solaris Senior Living Center Veterans Celebration on November 8th.



CWS Mike Tucker (USA-Ret) VITAS Veterans Coordinator and MOAACC member salutes a veteran at the Solaris Senior Living Center on November 8th.

At Right, Colonel Steve Bond (USA-Ret) looks on.



LCDR Dean Schaaf (USN-Ret) speaks at the Americana Resort, Veterans Day, 2022.



Jane Hodges (SSM) spoke at the Shell Harbor Veterans Day Event. Jane is shown with Shell Harbor Activities Director, Jackie Cantwell



COL Steve Bond (US Army, Ret) speaks at the Wuesthoff Hospice "Red, White, and You" veterans celebration held on Nov 18th. Wuesthoff Hospice Executive Director Sara Biel Hospice Executive Director at Right.



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Military Payment Certificate (MPC)

John Olsson, LT, USN Ret

Recently I was poking in the far reaches of my desk and turned up a ten cent MPC. My first thoughts were that it must have been a helluva a liberty to return with a dime in my pocket! Upon recall it is a practically worthless souvenir from an early 1960's port call in Naha, Okinawa.

What were MPC's? MPC was used by the Department of War and subsequently, the Department of Defense to pay personnel in foreign countries. MPC was similar to the Allied Payment Certificate (APC) which was used by the Allies when they occupied foreign countries. While MPC's were in dollar denominations, APC's were in francs, lira, etc. MPC was issued with the purpose of maintaining trade in local currency and only used on the bases. MPC was exchanged for local currency on the base. Theoretically this kept US dollars off the black market and helped stabilize the local currency. As could be expected, a black market developed off base to convert MPC to local currency. To counter the black marketing, at unannounced times the base would lock down and convert to a new series of MPC. This Conversion Day was called "C Day". A total of 13 series of MPC's were issued between 1946 and shortly after the end of hostilities in Viet Nam in 1973. The last area to use MPC's was South Korea.

As MPC's were issued by the DoD and not Treasury, they had no value except on the base. MPCs could be converted to US dollars when the service man was leaving the MPC zone.

Once the MPC saw its last use in South Korea, the concept lay dormant until the Eagle Card, a stored cash value card, used in Bosnia, Kosovo, Djibouti, Iraq and Afghanistan. I'm glad that I had the experience of using MPC as it wouldn't be the same finding a piece of plastic in the far reaches of my desk.



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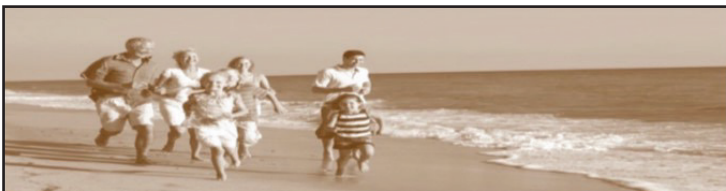
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VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER EVENTS - continued

Pooling Resources to Help Needy Veterans and Their Families over the Holidays

CPT Donn A. Weaver USA (Fmr)
2022 President, Good Deeds Foundation
Chairman Public Relations and Marketing

Brevard County has dozens of veteran organizations that assist veterans and their families in times of need. The need is greater than usual this year, especially when veterans short on resources want to provide better holiday experiences for their children. They may need a boost to do that while coping with inflation, high gas prices, rising rent costs and caught in between paydays, in an effort to share great holiday meals and provide gifts for the kids.

On 16 November 2022, four such organizations came together at the Veterans Memorial Center General Meeting to pool resources that would impact dozens of veteran families in crisis this holiday season. Acting as focal point, the VMC will host and help collect food and gifts for the Veterans Connections and the American Legion Post 344 Aux. The fourth organization, MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation, provided funding to make both holiday events likely to be more successful.

The Veterans Connection supports homeless and needy veterans and their families and is planning full Holiday Dinners in several Brevard locations.

The American Legion Post 344 provides a two-part event with Santa and Toys for the kids and a multi course holiday meal for the families, that will be held on 10 December 2022 at the VMC.



Donn Weaver (R), President of the GDF, presents a check for \$500 to CEO Don Pearsall (L) of Veterans Connection



Donn Weaver (R) provides a GDF Grant of \$750 to Rosemarie Hill (L), Legion 344 Aux President, and Diane (C), holiday program coordinator



The China Marines in the Pacific

By Bill Muckler, Captain USMC

The first mission for the 4th Marines after its rebirth was the seizure of Emirau Island in the St. Mathias Group. The objective of this operation was the construction of airfields to enable American planes to bomb the huge Japanese base at Rabaul.

The next assignment was to join the 22d Marines in the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade for the recapture of Guam which had been seized by the Japanese on 10 December 1941. Guam would provide the United States with air bases to attack Japan while also affording a good anchorage for the Navy.

The 4th Marines, except the 3d Battalion in reserve, were in the first assault waves to hit the beaches on 21 July 1944. As the Marines moved inland they encountered stiff resistance, resulting in the ordering ashore of the 3d Battalion. Regimental units reached the slopes of Mount Alifan by late afternoon. After turning back the Japanese counterattack, the 4th Marines were ordered to continue their drive on Mount Alifan. The two battalions in their move up the slopes found the enemy waiting, entrenched in caves and tunnels. The rough terrain led to the summit which was especially rugged. The Marines found it to be indefensible as the Japanese had made the same analysis because no enemy forces were found. Regimental personnel concluded their assault at nightfall, having already attained the crest of the mountain. They then dug in to await further orders which would be an assault on the neck of the Orote Peninsula.

The Leathernecks found Japanese resistance to be extremely stubborn. The Japanese had failed to take advantage of the precarious situation. They didn't counterattack on the night of the 24th but waited until the following evening to strike at the Marines. The regiment, however, was far better prepared to meet a counteroffensive. The enemy attack proved to be a wild, headlong, banzai charge. The onslaught was nonetheless beaten back by the Marines with the Japanese sustaining severe losses. A platoon from Company A, 1/4, which had been brought up to assist the 22d Marines, was the only unit from the 4th Marines to engage the enemy in this encounter. The platoon killed an estimated 250 during the battle. The 4th Marines led off the offensive on the Orote Peninsula. They fought their way through pockets of enemy defenders for the next three days. The peninsula's final capture was on 29 July.

The regiment remained on Guam for three weeks following the end of organized resistance, participating primarily in mopping-up operations. By 30 August, all units of the regiment had embarked on the return trip to Guadalcanal. (Next month: The China Marines on Okinawa)



US Marines on Guam in August 1944

MOAACC Shows the “Colors” During Palm Bay Veterans Day Parade



As the parade begins, Jose and Lupe as “King and Queen” with Donn Driving and Brian navigating.

For 8 of the past 10 years, MOAACC has entered a vehicle in the annual Palm Bay Veterans Day Parade. This year the 05 November event kicked off Veterans Day Week and you will see several other stories and many other events MOAACC Members supported.

While there were not as many citizens lining the streets as usual perhaps due to early morning rain and very warm temperatures, the MOAACC brand was well received. Thanks to Jose Prieto, our Master at Arms, and his USAF veteran spouse, Lupe Soto, for joining this year. IVP Brian Whalen and GDF President Donn Weaver filled out the foursome riding in Weaver’s convertible.

Hats off to Jose for walking much of the route to personally hand out small flags and welcome/thank onlookers. MOAACC’s new magnetic parade signs worked very well to focus the public on our organization. Next year let’s try to get a MOAACC float with some historic military uniforms since Jose has offered his flatbed trailer.

In all the event was a good way to kick off “Veterans Day” over many days in Brevard County.



MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION - continued

PSFB SLD 45 Quarterly Awards Ceremony

**By: CPT Donn A. Weaver USA (Former), 2022 President, Good Deeds Foundation
Chairman Public Relations and Marketing**

After being postponed due to Hurricane Nichole and having to switch to an outdoor facility, on 15 November the Space Force units of Space Launch Delta 45 (SLD45) finally held their quarterly Awards Ceremony to recognize some outstanding civilians and US Space Force Guardians who are very busy in supporting America's more active than ever Space Program, and MOAACC/GDF were guests at the ceremony.

Key supporters of the Unit were invited to set up tables to provide their information to the Guardians and their spouses going to and from the ceremony. MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation was invited as one of the organizations. Last year the GDF had provided more than \$10,000 to active-duty units and hopefully that number would be higher this year. The funds are used for various purposes including trophies and snacks for such ceremonies. For the November ceremony, winners walked off with a small surf board trophy with their names and units etched in the surface.



Joe Tichich (l) MOAACC's USAF and USSF Liaison Officer and GDF President Donn Weaver passed out GDF trifold, golf information and about six MOAACC membership forms to officers who appeared interested in joining.

The Last Resort: Good Deeds Foundation Helps a Special Veteran and Family

After working for many days with many agencies, the VA Veteran Support Office at the Melbourne Vet Center had one more organization to contact that might help in a dire situation. A US Army Veteran of 11 years, with combat related VA issues, had a tough decision. His wife had just landed a well-paying job in North Carolina that would allow them to start fresh after the landlord in Brevard raised the rent with numerous household repairs not being done. He spent many years on and near Ft Bragg and was very comfortable with the change and landing his own job and volunteer roles.

The problem was her new company would not cover the relocation costs and all available funds had been used up to prepare to move by 31 October. There was no money for a special rental truck they would need to move the entire family of five including their special needs daughter.

The veteran located the truck at a reasonable cost after several quotes, but could not cover the \$570 needed to procure it within a couple days to make sure they could move. Getting the check within 24 hours of the Melbourne Vet Center call to Good Deeds Foundation was to him a miracle and a blessing. Below he accepts the funds from GDF President Donn Weaver at the Veterans Memorial Center Museum, next to a mannequin wearing the uniform the veteran wore not long ago in combat in SW Asia.

There is more to this story. The special needs daughter is adopted by the family. She was five years old when she lost her own single Dad father to a tragedy. Her father was a platoon member for several years working under our veteran. The veteran would not let the daughter be passed into foster care, but would honor his junior enlisted warrior and raise her together with his wife and two other children.

Their oldest son just completed US Army boot camp at Ft. Jackson, SC, as a junior in high school heading into his senior year. The veteran and his wife had to miss that graduation ceremony due to funding issues, but will make sure they are available next summer when their oldest completes Advanced Individual Training.

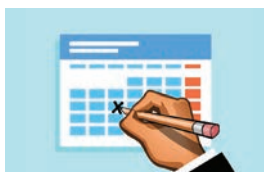
In talking about patriotism, honor and commitment, this family sets a high bar. We wish them every success as they restart their lives with high hopes.



VFW AUX Post 10148



After supporting the GDF sponsored "Operation Brevard JROTC to the Rescue" with supply donations for Hurricane victims in SW Florida in October, on 03 November, VFW AUX Post 10148 of Cocoa Beach came through again!! Here Lory Cozine Gibson, a VFW AUX officer, presents to Good Deeds Foundation, through President Donn Weaver, a check for \$500 to help recognize and support the 15 JROTC programs involved in the operation. Earlier they provided the Veterans Memorial Center \$1000 to continue hurricane relief transport operations and help toward the January 20-21 Stand Down to Stand Up. The VFW AUX recently organized a successful golf tournament fund raiser and wanted to donate to "great causes" they know about. What a special veteran community we have in Brevard County.



Unofficial Brevard VMC Vets Calendar

December 2022 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/other-veterans-events/>

NOTE: Central Brevard Stand Down to Stand Up is Rescheduled for 20-21 January 2023 at the Cocoa Armory. See details in the January listings. Cocoa Armory National Guard was activated to help in SW Florida days before the scheduled October Stand Down to Stand Up.

NOTE: Thanks to all who supported the six week Operation Brevard JROTC to the Rescue Project to send relief supplies to SW Florida and flooded areas in northern Brevard and beyond. The three Raider Challenge Meets at the VMC Park were very successful for that and for the events themselves as over 250 JRPTC cadets from 11 high schools competed in each event on 06 Oct, 22 Oct and 05 Nov

02 Dec — Wine for Warriors Holiday Luncheon 113-1300 Courtyard by Marriott in Cocoa Beach. Annual CBRCC Military Affairs Council fundraiser to support active duty military. Tickets \$50 each with sponsorships available. Wine donations and Toys for Tots sought for the raffle. Contact Jody Clark at CBRCC: jclark@cocoaabeachchamber.com. for more info at the register.

03 Dec — In VMC Park 1700-2000 — Planetpalooza sponsored by The American Space Museum and Brevard Astronomical Society with instruments to view amazing features on the moon, the rings of Saturn, Moons of Jupiter and the Polar caps on Mars! From 1700-2000 in the Veterans Memorial Park. Experts available to answer questions about space and stargazing during the afternoon and while viewing. Contact Mark Marquette on 423-946-4132 for more information. Please double check event is on in case of bad weather. Subject to postponement.

03 Dec — Trains for Christmas at the Brevard Museum 2201 Michigan Ave., Cocoa every Saturday in December 03, 10, 17, 24, 31 from 1200-1600. Includes a replica layout of the 351 mile Florida East Coast Railway that ran from Jacksonville to Miami. A great stop during the holidays for kids of all ages.

10 Dec — MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation Veterans and Military Support Golf Tournament. Cocoa Beach Country Club 0730-1400. Sponsorships and Hole Sponsor signs available. To sponsor or play connect to moaacc.org for Golf Tournament out call Donn Weaver 757-871-6576. GDF provides funding to support veterans in need, active duty special events, JROTC and. all youth organizations in Brevard as many veteran organizations that help veterans with special efforts like NVHS, Space Coast Honor Flight, Wreaths Across America and many more.

10 Dec — American Legion Auxiliary Christmas Party for needy veteran families children at VMC Gray Hall 1300- 1500.

10 Dec — Inaugural Space Force T-Minus 10-Miler from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. Register until 01 November at runspaceforce.com. Full details of this unique event to support our military on that website.

17 Dec — JROTC Sprint Relay in Veterans Memorial Park (0730-1200) with combat pack run followed by air rifle target shooting. American Legion Post 344 to sponsor trophies.

17 Dec — Wreaths Across America Ceremonies and laying out at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery (0800-1100) and many other Brevard areas and cemeteries with WAA Location Coordinators. Contact VMC for more information at wreathscrossamerica.org to donate for a wreath at \$15.

17 Dec — JROTC CMP Cup Air Rifle Match at Palm Bay HS -1100-1230 for awards Ceremony and final rounds. Begins at 0800.

18 Dec — WAA Brevard Ceremony at Pinecrest Cemetery in Cocoa in Honor of Medal of Honor Recipient Emory Bennett 1200-1300. Escort from VMC starting at 1030.

2023:

20 - 21 Jan — The Central Brevard “Veteran Stand Down to Stand Up” (Formerly known as Stand Down) event will be held at the Cocoa Armory on 20 Jan 2023 (set up) and 21 Jan for the actual activity. Earlier Date of 07-08 Oct had to be scrubbed since FLARNG Unit called up to assist Ian recovery in SW Florida. As many as 250 homeless and at risk veterans usually attend the event with more than that number of volunteers providing a wide range of services from the private sector, the VA, the Medical Community, charitable organizations, etc. The Veterans Memorial Center (VMC) is the primary organizer of the event, but partners with National Veterans Homeless Support (NVHS), Volunteers of America, the Veterans Administration and dozens of others to help the program support many veterans in need. This event will focus on homeless and at risk veterans and their families, while also matching the veterans with job options on the Space Coast. Contact BVC Council Chairman Donn Weaver 757-871-6576 for more information.

04 Feb — JROTC Drill Meet in Veterans Memorial Park (0700-1230)

05 Feb — Immortal Four Chaplains Ceremony 1400-1600 VMC Plaza and Gray Hall.

18 Feb — JROTC Drill Meet in Veterans Memorial Park (0700-1300)

23 Feb — Liberty Bell Museum Patriot Awards Dinner 1800-2100 Grand Manor Catering 1450 Sarno Road, Melbourne. Details follow to register and help honor local volunteers who support veterans in many ways.

25 Feb — Back Brevard Heroes Fundraiser in Veterans Memorial Park 0900-1700

01 Apr — American Legion AUX 344 annual Easter Egg Hunt at Veterans Memorial Park 1300-1500

04 Mar — JROTC Drill Meet in Veterans Memorial Park District Championship (0700-1300)

18 Mar — Commemoration of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution 1000-1300 VMC Plaza, Museum and Gray Hall

07 May — Back Brevard Heroes Festival to honor First Responders and Veterans, VMC Plaza, Gray Hall and Park 0930- 1400.

20 May — Space Coast Military and Family Appreciation Day and BBQ — On Armed Forces Day 2023, From 1000-1500 at the VMC and Park. Active duty unit displays, music, food, kids games, many special activities to honor our active duty forces and their families. Co-sponsored by CBRCC MAC, VMC and US Army Recruiting Command. Look for details by January.

29 May — Memorial Day Remembrance VMC 0930-1030

03 Jun — Annual Courageous Division NSCC Sea Cadet Awards Ceremony, VMC Gray Hall and Library 0800- 1500

Please help us spread the word and advise of any new events. Donn Weaver BVC Chairman 757-871-6576.

*Please help us spread the word
and advise of any new events.*
Donn Weaver, BVC Chairman 757-871-6576

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS cont'd

term bi-partisan deal to raise the borrowing cap is more likely in the new Congress. Non-Discretionary spending questions are embedded here, in particular bulking up the finances of Social Security and Medicare, two of the largest expenditures along with servicing the interest on the national debt. In any case, the high rate of inflation and rising interest rates are exacerbating these problems.

Further complicating the FY2023 budget funding crisis is the Biden Administration's recent request for \$47.7 Billion in new emergency spending authority. This includes \$37.7 B to support Ukraine with additional equipment and to replenish DoD stocks; it would carry the Ukrainians through the end of the fiscal year. It also includes \$9.25 B for continuing access to COVID vaccines and treatments, and to support long-COVID research, and an estimated (but not final) amount for responding to recent natural disasters in Florida and Puerto Rico among other places. Each of these seem to be legitimate needs that should be funded without delay either now or immediately in the new congress.

MOAACC MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



Florida Today article (01Nov22) that mentions Chapter member Wayne Justice

Viera Voice article (November 2022 edition) that features/quotes Chapter members Donn Weaver & Dean Schaaf



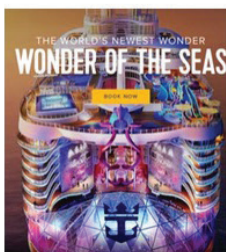
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