



The INTERCOM

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc.



REMEMBERING
9/11

Photo by Pish Pishdad

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

(Click Event for details)

- 9/1 TMBC @ Indian River Colony Club - 8am
- 9/8 TMBC @ Indian River Colony Club - 8am
- 9/11 Brevard County 9/11 21st Anniversary Memorial Tribute @ The Veteran's Memorial Park, Merritt Island - 4pm
- 9/13 On-The-Go Luncheon at B.J's Restaurant and Brew House, Melbourne - 11:30am
- 9/15 TMBC @ Indian River Colony Club - 8am
- 9/15 MOAACC Grill & Chill @ Manatee Cove Marina & Tiki Bar, Patrick SFB - 5pm
- 9/17 Unveiling Ceremony of US Allied Forces Monument @ Veterans Memorial Center, Merritt Island - 10am
- 9/17 ROTC Scholarship and Academy Appointment Forum @ Veterans Memorial Center, Merritt Island - 1pm
- 9/20 MOAACC Board of Directors Meeting @ Indian River Colony Club - 9:30am
- 9/20 MOAACC Luncheon @ Indian River Colony Club - 11:30am
- 9/22 TMBC @ Indian River Colony Club - 8am
- 9/29 TMBC @ Indian River Colony Club - 8am
- 9/30 NVHS 2nd Annual Golf Tournament @ Rockledge Country Club

See more information online
at MOAACC.org > Events & Activities

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



CDR Ken Lowe, USNR Ret

One Chapter, Many Parts

The other day I was reading an article regarding the body and its parts that made me think of how our chapter is also the sum of many parts that are interdependent with one another.

The chapter is the body, and the body consist of the membership. Our members come from different services, have various backgrounds and experiences, includes spouses and surviving spouses. Our membership is diverse but has come together for a unifying single purpose: to serve.

The head of this body is the Leadership and Board of Directors, elected by the members, providing focus and direction. I imagine the arms as being our Good Deeds and Scholarship Foundations reaching out to the local community. Because of their effective impacts both foundations have, their results reflect positively on the chapter; but without support from the members, they would not be able to accomplish their goals as well as they do. I see the legs as being those members that go and are involved with other organizations such as Student Affairs, Veterans Treatment Court, DAV, VA Clinic Liaison, Veteran Service Officers, VMC, Cape Canaveral Ladies, Service Liaisons, etc. Then we have those members who support the chapter internally, e.g., Treasurer, Luncheon coordinators, Quartermaster, Chaplains, and a big one Survivor Assistance and Surviving Spouses. A more exhaustive listing is in The Intercom.

We are members of MOAA's largest and best chapter and must rely on each other to ensure we retain that position. We need to remember that we are interdependent of one another, and the chapter depends upon all its parts; if one part suffers, the chapter suffers as does the body if a leg or arm or organ is injured.

Like a body, the chapter needs a reason to exist. Our reasons are articulated in our three pillars: Legislative Advocacy, Philanthropy, and Camaraderie. Without focus or purpose, the chapter accomplishes nothing and begins to wither and eventually dies.

A body and a chapter both need nourishment to sustain and grow. Our sustainment comes from retaining and growing our membership. We need new members to supplement those who are the "parts". My challenge to every member is: go find a new member to help sustain the good works of our chapter.

STAY UP TO DATE - VISIT:

www.MOAACC.org

EDITOR'S CORNER

Please be sure to read and follow the guidelines laid out in each monthly "Call for Input" email when submitting your articles to help streamline the editing process.

Send Articles and Photos For Input To:

moaaccintercom@greenmancreations.com

Guidlines for Submissions:

Formatting: Please be sure to include a title for your input, and the name of the writer/author (with svc & rank if applicable). Please send all input in Microsoft Word or Apple Pages compatible format. PDF Documents are not accepted.

Photos: If you have photos embedded in your documents, please also send them as separate, full-size attachments for the best image quality.

My availability: After-hours & weekends only. I will not be available for MOAACC Intercom related tasks/ discussions during my normal business hours Mon-Fri. Please hold any MOAACC Intercom related communication for my after-hours availability.

To get in touch with me, please contact me via email, at: moaaccintercom@greenmancreations.com and I will respond as soon as I am available.

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 19.

WHY JOIN MOAACC?

Legislative Advocacy

Philanthropy

Camaraderie

Provides grassroots level support to MOAA aims and keeps members informed and engaged

The Intercom is published 12 times annually by the Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc. an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America of Alexandria, VA. Contents of The Intercom articles are the opinions solely of the authors and do not express the policy or official views of MOAA or the Cape Canaveral Chapter. The advertisements that appear in this publication do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate. Your comments and suggestions are welcome. MOAA, and it's affiliated chapters and councils, including MOAACC, are nonpartisan.

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

Thanks again to our adjusted PR/M team described in this space last month, we can shift gears to make sure the Intercom News stays up to date and Press Releases covering major events are timely. This process will pick up the pace all the way through December and the Good Deeds Golf Tournament, Christmas Dance, etc. Thanks again to all who serve on the PR/M team.

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. Have a great summer.

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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Mark Your Calendar!

On The Go Luncheon

Tuesday, September 13th
11:30 a.m.

B.J's Restaurant and Brew House
1700 W. New Haven Ave.
Melbourne, FL 32904

SPACE COAST NAVY WIVES

Please join us for the September luncheon on Friday, September 9th at THE TIDES. Please note that this is the 2nd Friday of the month. Social hour begins at 11:30am and lunch served at noon.

Our speaker will be Stacey Kinsella Millingen, daughter of member Nancy Kinsella. Stacey is a commercial interior designer from Jamaica and will show us how to make bows and other decorating ideas.

Menu choices are Spinach Salad with Grilled chicken or Italian Wrap with house friend chips.

For more information and reservations, please call or text Rebecca Kerseys at (207) 607-0006. You may also email her at oceanspruce@protonmail.com. Reservations must be made no later than noon, Tuesday September 6th.

Remember friends and family are always welcome.

Ellie Joy
(321) 757-0193

SAVE THE DATE

Surviving Spouses is sponsoring their annual Christmas Tea. This is open to all spouses. The date is Thursday, December 8th at 2pm at Indian River Colony Club.

More information to follow.

Ellie Joy (321) 757-0193

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Retire your way

Start with a plan

I ask the right questions to help you understand what you need for the retirement you want. Then I show you how to get there. For some of life's questions, you're not alone. Together we can find an answer.



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MOAACC
Good Deeds Foundation
PO Box 320358
Cocoa Beach, FL 32932

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MAJ Tim Pishdad, USA-Ret (State, Local)

Success!

You did it! They did it! We did it! Congratulations to all involved in getting the PACT Act passed and signed into law recently. It seems as though the Congress is functioning again, in this case acting on a bi-partisan basis to get this important legislation passed for veterans who have been exposed to toxins during their service. And, then on a purely partisan basis to pass the so-called Inflation Control Act, which has absolutely nothing to do with controlling inflation. The key question is exactly what was included in these two significant bills which will impact veterans and all Americans in potentially meaningful ways, respectively.

The PACT Act expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War and post 9-11 eras who were exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. It adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic agents including more presumptive exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation. "Presumptive conditions" means the VA automatically assumes that your service caused the condition and you are not required to prove that your service caused the condition. You only need to meet service requirements for the presumption. All this and much more is spelled out at the VA website: va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits --Click on this link to go there and read more.

The Inflation Control Act was passed using the Reconciliation process with a close 51-50 vote in the Senate thanks to Vice-President Harris' tiebreaker—more accurately, it could be called the Democrats' Climate and Health bill even though it helps all Americans. Over ten years, it adds \$490 Billion in Spending and Tax Cuts and generates \$764 Billion in Savings and New Revenue according to CBO estimate, a net positive to the federal budget. On the Spending side, it allows corporate and individual clean energy credits for electric cars, nuclear energy, and fuel taxes, supports clean manufacturing, research, agricultural conservation, and weather and climate resilience measures. It also provides a Medicare prescription drug benefit and subsidies for Affordable Care Act eligible recipients. On the Savings side, it allows some drug price negotiation, repeals regulation on drug rebates and limits some drug prices. It also sets a corporate minimum tax of 15%, bolsters IRS enforcement and invokes a stock buyback tax. What it demonstrates more than anything is the Democrats can compromise among themselves and get something done albeit a very watered-down version of President Biden's dream of a New American Deal.

MOAA is now pursuing another big push in conjunction with other organization-members of The Military Coalition to get the Richard Star Act passed, again on the basis of bi-partisan cooperation, compromise and consensus. As you know, this would allow the over 50,300 combat-injured veterans who are medically retired to receive the full amount of both earned benefits (Veteran and Military Retirement) concurrently—also known as concurrent receipt. As of 17 August, there are now 295 co-sponsors in the House including our own Representative, Bill Posey, as well as 61 US Senators co-sponsoring the Senate version. Both versions are slated to come up for votes in their respective chambers before the end of the current session of Congress, 30 September. So, get the word out and let your voices be heard in the halls of Congress---how else are we going to succeed?!



POINTS TO PONDER

Ch, LtCol, Thomas Unrath, USAF (Ret)

The unofficial end of summer, Labor Day, is upon us. This holiday is 140 years old this year. The first Labor Day parade was held Sept 5, 1882. (It happened to be a Tuesday.) There are two men who could be credited with the idea of having a holiday honoring the American workers. The Department of Labor has this on its website:

“Many Americans celebrate Labor Day with parades, picnics, and parties – festivities very similar to those outlined by the first proposal for a holiday, which suggested that the day should be observed with – a street parade to exhibit “the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations” of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day.”

It seems that labor organizations, particularly trade unions, were the focus of the first celebrations. When I was in college, I spent a couple of summers working in a factory where union membership was a prerequisite of employment. I didn't mind since the hourly wage was pretty good for the day. Most of the guys (and they were all men) I worked with thought the union was absolutely terrific and necessary. I knew I would only be working there for a short time, so it wasn't a big deal for me.

The “strength and esprit de corps” cited in the proclamation above is something I value highly and have found in those who have shared the uniforms we have worn. It is so today in the gathering of officers whose fellowship I count as a most valued gift in this chapter, MOAACC.

We have not all shared the same uniform, particular experiences, or duties, yet similar enough to draw us together. As in our younger years on active duty, we care for and highly regard our comrades. We stand by our shipmates, wingmen, battle buddies; we still have each other's backs.

Our “trade union” is of a higher order. We hold it dear these many years later. Our “Labor Day” is more directly aligned with “Memorial Day” than for the folks in other labor organizations. We have served a higher calling with an “unlimited liability.” Our families, spouses especially, often didn't understand or like it. Being told to spend a year separated or deployed indefinitely is just different than being told you have to work an overtime shift. We had no “union” to handle grievances.

This Labor Day enjoy the day as you best can. Your labor has been of more value for more people than most any other workers’.

TAPS

**MOAA CAPE CANAVERAL CHAPTER
MEMBER, AUXILIARY, and SPOUSE DEATHS**

**Reported 1 July 2022 thru 31 July 2022:
(Names listed in chronological order of date of death)**

**Donald E. Allen Col, USAF Ret.
9 July 2022**

**Susan Stout, Spouse of Bruce F. Stout, COL,
USA Ret.
16 July 2022**

**Last Death on the
June 2022 Taps List:**

**Daniel Thompson, Capt, USAF Ret
20 June 2022**





FINANCIAL LITERACY

CAPT Arnold Lim, USNR (Ret)

Credit Reports and Freezes

Like it or not, credit reports and freezes are important aspects in most adults' lives in the modern world. This article is the first of a two-part series on these topics.

The three major credit bureaus are: Equifax; Experian; and Transunion. They all collect information on various types of financial accounts.

You can request free reports from all three bureaus at the website AnnualCreditReport.com. Policy used to allow at most one report per 12 months from each bureau, but with the onset of COVID, the bureaus have each allowed access up to once per week. Once received, verify that all accounts shown on the report are accurate, e.g., you (or your spouse for joint accounts) are the one that opened it; any accounts that you have paid off in full are shown as closed. Obviously, if you see an account that you do not recognize, strong action on your part to correct that is called for.

Note that multiple types of credit scores exist, not just one. Each has a scoring algorithm that considers characteristics like: payment history; credit usage; age of credit; recent credit applications; and available credit. The higher the score number, the better. Scores range from a minimum of about 300 to maximum of 850 or 900. Scores above about 800 are considered "golden," where you will generally be offered the very best interest rates. Scores below 680 enter into trouble zones.

Access to scores: Lots of companies and websites offer you access

to your credit score, but do note that one does not have to pay a fee. Banks and credit unions often provide their customers with credit scores after logging into their website. For instance, clients of Navy Federal Credit Union can pull their Equifax score, which is updated approximately monthly. CreditKarma.com also provides score information for free, after creating an account.

Strategies to improve a score: * Pay loans bills on time; never be late. * Be conscious of your credit utilization ratio = sum of all credit accounts' current balances divided by sum of all credit limits. Staying below 10% will produce good scores, vs exceeding 30% will raise flags in the eyes of the bureau, which could significantly decrease your score. * If you do have a large balance but then pay it off, your score should rise back up in a couple of months. * Even if you have a credit card that you do not use anymore, consider not closing the account; having that older account remain active will help maintain a higher average age of accounts, which is desirable in the eyes of a bureau. On the other hand, try not to open too many new accounts in a burst; that will decrease your average age of accounts. * If you are in the market for a loan, submit all of the applications for credit within a short time period and your score may dip just a small amount; if you stretch out the applications, it will appear like potentially several different loans are in play (and several hard inquiries were made), and your score will needlessly decrease even more.

Next month, we will continue on with discussions on the impact of having a good or bad credit score as well as a look at credit freezes.

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St. Francis REFLECTIONS
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Evelyn Torres, APRN



SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE LESSONS LEARNED

Lt Col Chuck Shaw, USAF (Ret)

The “Honoring Our PACT Act” Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform legislation was signed into law on August 10th. The Department of Veterans Affairs has established a website explaining the details of the PACT Act (va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits) and is encouraging veterans to file claims if they are eligible, and apply for health care coverage. If you do not have a computer, contact a friend and see if they will show you the website!

The bill adds nearly two dozen conditions to a list of ailments presumed connected to toxic exposure by the VA; while the legislation includes a timetable for this change, the President announced at the signing the VA will move to make these changes immediately. The bill also expands VA research into burn pit-related illnesses and improves VA's screening process for those illnesses

One of the more important “Surviving Spouse Lessons Learned” is if a Veteran is eligible for a disability, especially if they have been treated for any of the “VA presumptive illnesses”, they should file a claim for the associated benefits to see if they are eligible to receive them.

I have assisted too many Vets and their spouses that are eligible for benefits, but they either never bothered to file a claim; or did complete the claim forms but did not submit them before the Vet passed away. A couple of the more common reasons are “I am not really disabled, so give the benefits to someone that really IS disabled.” Or “the paperwork is not worth it.”

That results in your not receiving benefits that are in place for you, but it also deprives your surviving spouse of receiving monetary benefits after you pass away that she may need since your income she receives is usually reduced. For instance, there is a monthly VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (VA DIC) payment that your spouse may qualify for as your surviving spouse, dependent child, or parent of a Veteran who died from a service-connected disability.

This is also a good time to remind chapter members that we have a qualified Veteran Service Officer and liaison to the VA that can assist in answering questions and filing for benefits—Contact LTC Harry “Skip” Taylor (USA-Ret) at 321-242-3279 or skiptaylor41@gmail.com.



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PLUS A 25% DISCOUNT ON
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■ Medicaid Qualification for
Nursing Home Placement
■ VA Aid & Attendance



Robin M. Petersen, Esq.

Former JAG Officer
Military Brat
Board Certified in Elder Law by
the National Elder Law
Foundation
VA Accredited Attorney
MOAA Lifetime Member



Cassidy Petersen Conti, Esq.

Master of Business Administration
Certificate of Concentration in Elder
Law from Stetson Law School
Founding Member of the National
Alliance of Attorneys for Alzheimer's
Planning (N3AP)
Vice President on Board for Space
Coast Guardianship Association



Roger W. Klaffka, Esq.

Lt Colonel, US Air Force (Ret)
Master in Administrative
Science (MAS)
Bachelors in Aerospace
Engineering
MOAA, VFW, American Legion, &
Air Commando Association

**Contact us at
321-729-0087**

**321 Sixth Avenue
Indialantic, FL 32903**

**8085 Spyglass Hill Rd
Melbourne, FL 32940**

**Visit our website at
[www.ElderLawCenter
Brevard.com](http://www.ElderLawCenterBrevard.com)**

August MOAACC Luncheon Photos



Above: Lt. Col Brian Whalen (left) and LCDR Dan Levey (right) presented the MOAACC appreciation plaque to August Luncheon Speaker, USN Captain Jason J. Schneider (center), commanding officer of Naval Ordnance Test Unit Cape Canaveral Florida. The command has operated for over 65 years for Navy, supporting both ground based and missile flight testing system.





MEMBERSHIP BRIEF

We welcome 9 new members this month, and two new life members:

Lt Col Robin Athey, USAF (Ret)

LT Debra L Gilbert, USN (Fmr)

CPT Charles S. Griffin, USA (Fmr)

LT Debra Halsall, USCG

CDR Thomas Martin, USCG

CWO3 Cecelia M Palma, USN (Ret)

LTJG Marcus Thompson, USCG

LCDR Johnathan Tice, USCG

CDR Larry Wood, USN (Ret) Life Member

Renewed:

LTC William Vanasse, USA (Ret) new Life Member




Former, Active, Retired Military Officers,
Warrant Officers & Spouses

JOIN MOAA CAPE CANAVERAL CHAPTER (MOAACC)

- Advocacy from the National to the State and Local levels
 - Philanthropy and Community Service
 - Comradery with a Purpose


NEVER STOP SERVING

Visit us at: www.MOAACC.org/membership


As Military Officers, our shared experience of service forms a bond like no other. And while MOAA is based in Washington, D.C., the heart and soul of our organization lies in our local community.

For more information about us and what we do, visit our website at www.MOAACC.org


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SEPTEMBER MOAACC LUNCHEON

Lt Col Brian Whalen, USAF (Ret)



LTC Ken Harris, USAF

LTC Ken Harris, USAF, is our September Luncheon Speaker and he will be providing insights into Joint Task Force (JTF) Guantanamo (GITMO).

Ken is enjoying a varied military career. He enlisted in the US Navy in 1982. After some time at sea, he attended and graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1989, completing 4 years of Active Duty aboard a new destroyer. Reorienting his goals, he enlisted in the Army National Guard in Hawaii, where they set him on the path of commissioning again through OCS. After a dozen years in the Guard, he transitioned to the US Army Reserve. Army Assignments have included Military Intelligence, Ordnance (Maintenance), Logistics, Engineering, Instructing and Information Operations. He's deployed to Iraq from 2003-2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and to JTF GTMO from 2011-2012.

In addition to his Army Reserve commitment, Ken is active in the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). He joined the ROTC Team in 2005 at Florida Atlantic University (FAU), worked in Boston from 2015-2020, and joined the Florida Institute of Technology's Panther Battalion's Cadre in August 2020.

Ken is an active chapter member, supporting youth activities and is a familiar face at the JROTC events at the Veterans Memorial Center. He was instrumental in planning and coordinating the September 17 seminar at the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center to familiarize high school students with the admissions process for US military academies and College ROTC scholarships.

Ken is a proud husband to Silviane, and father to Leonardo.



SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Col D. Brent Baysinger, USAF Ret

SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION IS PROUD TO HAVE NEW DISTINGUISHED DONORS!

If you see **Betty** or **Sam** (I Am) **Ginsburg** out and about, please be sure to pass along thanks from the Scholarship Corporation for their generous donation of \$5,000 at the last monthly luncheon! Oh, and from the Good Deeds Foundation as well since they gave them \$5,000 on the same day! While this definitely shows that they are a benevolent couple, it also shows that they are financially savvy. How? Allow me to explain.

After reaching age 72 (or age 70 1/2 if you hit that milestone before 1 Jan 2020), you must start taking Required Minimum Distributions from any employer sponsored retirement plans, including profit-sharing plans, 401(k) plans, 403(b) plans, and 457(b) plans. The RMD rules also apply to traditional IRAs and IRA-based plans such as SEPs, SARSEPs, and SIMPLE IRAs. The problem is, taxes will not be withheld from these distributions. This can lead to a nasty surprise on April 15th of the next year since Uncle Sam will still want his slice of that distribution! One way to avoid this surprise, while helping your community, is to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This means giving the money from your distribution directly to a 501(C)3 organization. It just so happens that both the Scholarship Corporation and Good Deeds Foundation are 501(C)3 organizations! This means that distributions as large as \$100,000 may be donated without having to pay any taxes on those distributions (Not that we are suggesting donation amounts or anything.....).

As always, consult a financial expert before making any significant moves, but please keep our MOAACC 501(C)3's in mind as a way to manage your tax burden, just like Sam and Betty did!

MOAACC SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS:**Gloria Makowski***Thank you*

Donations to the MOAACC Scholarship Program is welcome throughout the year. Any dollar amount will be appreciated. Mail donations to MOAACC Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 254708, Patrick SFB, FL 32925-4708 or go online at MOAACC.

Joe Tichich, Selection Committee Chair

Thank You Letters from Recent Scholarship Winners:

To the Members of MOAACC and the Scholarship Committee:

I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to MOAACC for selecting me with the scholarship grant. This scholarship will not only help me completely pay off my tuition for the 2022-2023 school year, but also serves as a motivational tool encouraging me to keep excelling in school.

In this letter, I would like to reflect on some of my goals for this upcoming year and some of the opportunities I have been offered. This summer, I am completing an optical mechanical engineering internship with Lockheed Martin in Louisville, CO, aiding in designing one of the most advanced lasers in existence. As of last week (19 July 2022), I was offered a part-time remote position while in school. I had also received a perfect score on my performance evaluation for my internship. I have also been offered an internship with Blue Origin as a Test Engineer for Spring 2022 and a returning offer from Lockheed Martin for the Orion Program supporting machine learning adaptations on the Orion capsule. I will be the first to say that these internships have gotten out of hand a bit, but I am grateful for these opportunities. I will transition to a part-time student so I will be able to graduate by Spring 2024. I will also be more involved with some local Girl Scout Troops to encourage STEM education.

This scholarship will support me in my educational endeavors and ease the stress in my professional life.

I will continue to represent this organization well throughout the rest of my academic career. If your organization would like to stay in touch with my progress, I may be reached at aleelinder19@gmail.com. I am also on LinkedIn as Alexis Linder.

Thank you greatly for this opportunity!

Alexis Linder

P.S.- I apologize for the delay in my letter. I have been in CO.

Dear MOAACC Members,

Thank you for your generous support. The scholarship will help me pursue a Master's in Public Administration at Syracuse University's Maxwell School, which will prepare me for a career within program management for a non-profit or governmental body. As the program begins, I have already gotten to learn from several former directors of federal agencies and other public professionals from across the world. Outside of my studies, I work for the University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability/UCED where I assist in creating their disability statistics compendium. The compendium compiles annual disability statistics from across the nation, including statistics specific to veterans with disabilities regularly used by advocates and policymakers. This position has taught me about the importance of accessibility, and the use of data to inform decisions- two things that I will take with me in my future career. I do not completely know my exact path, but regardless of it, I plan to help others and give back through whatever work I choose. Thank you for helping me, so that I can continue to help others through my future work.

Sincerely,

Sawyer Rogers

2022 MOAACC Scholarship Recipient



MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION

CPT Donn Weaver, USA, Fmr, President GDF



L-R: Debbie Phelps, Greg Phelps, Nina Phelps and Deborah Carson

August was a banner month in the 7 year history of MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation. Below you will see the story of likely the greatest level of support to all County JROTC programs in the history of MOAA Chapters reaching out to so many cadet units. We also continue to get amazing donations to support the wide ranging GDF program (Check the October Intercom for our FY 2022 final Impact Report), and we're happy to recognize the family of former member Steve Phelps, who passed early this year. His family reached out to send money in lieu of flowers to GDF, and 67 individuals provided \$17,200 in his memory.

Please see our envelope to launch our Fall fundraising campaign in this issue of the printed version or consider mailing in or sending via web site and credit card to your Good Deeds Foundation so we can continue and expand our missions. Thank You!!



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Social & Golf Memberships

Enjoy the country club lifestyle and the camaraderie of like-minded veterans without the need to buy a home.

Play golf, tennis or join the 60+ activities and social groups.

Celebrate your service's birthday at our military balls.

- 18 HOLE, PAR 72 GORDON LEWIS GOLF COURSE
- 3 REGULATION SIZE HAR-TRU TENNIS COURTS
- RESORT STYLE POOL WITH LAP LANES

- CASUAL & FINE DINING AT THE AT EASE CLUB
- 19TH HOLE BAR & GRILL

SCHEDULE A TOUR TO LEARN MORE!

Mid-Year Grade for MOAACC and GDF: A Plus in Helping Veterans in Distress through NVHS

All MOAACC Members and supporters can be very proud of a special support program with two arms to help veterans and their families in dire distress in Brevard County. Working through the National Veterans Homeless Support (NVHS) Office in Cocoa, from January - July 2022, almost \$6000 has been provided to 8 veterans with a collective 13 children. Without such help, combined with NVHS funding, these veterans and their families would have been evicted (5 cases), denied utilities (3 cases) and been unable to properly feed their families when facing other bills which required immediate payment.

This year our program has two streams of support: Direct GDF grants on an individual case by case basis (sometimes involving a short fuse before homelessness would result; and through a grant of \$3000 from MOAA National which is provided at \$500 per case and combined with NVHS funds and once with GDF monies. GDF has supported three families with 8 children involved for a total of \$2975, while the MOAA grant has helped five veterans and their families.



Jennifer Taylor, VP of NVHS receives the symbolic check for \$2975 from GDF President Donn Weaver.



Weaver and Ms. Taylor, with 1 VP Brian Whalen (r) meet another veteran assisted through the MOAA National grant.



Weaver and MOAACC Treasurer Mike Schroeder flank veterans with families who received a GDF grant (left) and a MOAA National Grant outside the NVHS office on rte 520 in Cocoa.

So, how did we get an A plus so far in 2022?

- MOAACC/GDF met EVERY request received from NVHS in urgent cases from January to July 2022.
- Two cases were turned around by GDF email vote in less than 24 hours, one of which avoided eviction of a single parent veteran with five children on Memorial Day Weekend.
- Funding helped one single Mom get enough funds to qualify for PSFB special housing and allowed another to receive local VA major medical treatment to get well enough to relocate to another state for more family support.
- The MOAA grant funds, administered by MOAACC Treasurer Mike Schroeder and IVP Brian Whalen, along with GDF, were used in five crucial cases within a three month period after they were made available from MOAA. They have been used up for 2022.
- We will query MOAA in January 2023 if more funds might be available next year. Not many MOAA Chapters

apply for this grant, but this is MOAACC's second year and we have real credibility with MOAA National, thanks to the vetting and knowledge shared with us by NVHS.

- GDF moved some budgeted funds late last year as a contingency to support at risk veteran families as/if needed for the remainder of this year. This was a crucial move given the rental, inflation, gas prices, etc., increases we all face, but none more than veterans and others living financially short each month with no savings or other support resources.

More Vets with families we have helped:



Thanks to all who contribute to the Good Deeds Foundation to allow us to support this and so many more missions. Do not forget our 10 December Golf Tournament Fundraiser which is a great way to make sure we can keep helping many at high levels in 2023.

See more GDF articles starting in online section, page 21



**Exclusively Serving Veterans And
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VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER EVENTS & UPDATE

Dean Schaaf and Donn Weaver

With the special 07 August Purple Heart Day Ceremony, the July 4th Parade and many other events, the summer was not exactly quiet at the Veterans Memorial Center. The VMC added two more MOAACC Members as lifetime VMC members so the partnership between MOAACC and VMC continues to expand.

Wait until you see the Fall: Here are the Posters from Three Major VMC based events on partnership with MOAACC and others, with stories to follow. Check the VMC Calendar for more details and we hope you will consider joining us and many others at the events that increase significantly this Fall of 2022.

Military Officer And Academy Day-September 17, 2022

1 PM – 5 PM @
Brevard Veterans Memorial Center (VMC) Gray Hall: light refreshments & no cost to attend.

Who – High Schools Juniors & Seniors, Parents & Instructors
What – Information about Leadership Opportunities through Military Service
Where – 400 S Sykes Creek Pkwy, Merritt Island, FL 32952
When – 9-17 from 1300-1700

MOAACC & VMC invite you to join us to about leadership opportunities through military service.

Register QR code or @ <https://www.brevardmoaa.org/leadership>

MOAA
Cape Canaveral Chapter

The 2022, Brevard County 9/11 21st Anniversary Memorial Tribute will be held at:

The Veteran's Memorial Park

Located at:
400 South Sykes Creek Pkwy
Merritt Island, FL 32952

CITIZENS OF BREVARD COUNTY JOIN US
AT 4:00PM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022
SUPPORTING AND REMEMBERING THE FIRE, POLICE, EMS, CIVILIANS, AND MILITARY WHO LOST THEIR LIVES ON 9/11
AND ALL THOSE AFTERWARDS WHO SUFFERED THE LOSS OF LIFE AND MEDICAL 9/11 CHALLENGES.

UNIFORM CEREMONY BEGINS AT 4PM.



25TH ANNUAL CENTRAL BREVARD

STAND DOWN TO STAND UP

FREE SERVICES TO VETERANS

- ❖ Transportation To and From
- ❖ Medical
- ❖ Dental
- ❖ Legal
- ❖ Hearing and Eye Exams
- ❖ Haircuts
- ❖ Clothing
- ❖ Survival Supplies
- ❖ Employers Hiring
- ❖ VA Benefits Assistance
- ❖ Women Vets Services
- ❖ Much more...

8 October 2022
7:30 am – 2 pm

For Homeless or Distressed Veterans

SPONSORED BY

THE VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER AND
MANY OTHER VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

LOCATION

Cocoa Armory
308 North Fiske Boulevard, Cocoa, FL 32922

CONTACT US

Non-Monetary Donations
Donna Longway | boosterx2002@gmail.com

CONTACT US

Funding / Donations
Donn Weaver | (757) 871-6576 | donnweaver2020@gmail.com



VOLUNTEER MEETING DAYS – 5-6:30 pm

02 AUGUST	VMC LIBRARY
16 AUGUST	VMC LIBRARY
06 SEPTEMBER	VMC LIBRARY
20 SEPTEMBER	ARMORY
27 SEPTEMBER	ARMORY
07 OCTOBER	SET UP 12-5 PM – ARMORY
08 OCTOBER	EVENT – ARMORY

CONTACT US

To Volunteer
Jill Rippon | jillrvmc@gmail.com

Remembering Sacrifice: Purple Heart Ceremony at VMC on 07 August



More than 160 veterans, guests, family members, and honorees attended the Fifth Annual Military Order of Purple Heart Chapter 453 Ceremony to honor Purple Heart Recipients in a moving, 2 hour ceremony.

The Purple Heart Recipients honored included two who were killed in combat, James Borawski and Herbert Crosby. Both were killed in action in Vietnam. Their stories were told by Phil Kearns (Borawski) and Crosby's sister, MaryLou Wade. Crosby commanded a helicopter that was shot down and he and his co-pilot were listed as Missing in Action (MIA) for decades. The site was finally located and Crosby was laid to rest finally in 2014.

The other honorees included Paul Abel, Ben Bydalek, Richard Ferry, Howard Gentry, Robert Grant, Ray Gruno, Lance Johnson, Robert Blanchard and Keith Van Buren. All will have bricks provided by MOPH, helped by a grant from the Good Deeds Foundation of MOAACC, placed in the VMC Memorial Plaza at the Purple Heart Monument. Their stories were read while the silent audience and family members listened in awe by Pat Keane, Phil Kearns, Paul Marek, Carmen Santiago, Dick Hanesworth, Skip Taylor, Bob Faulkender, Josh Frey, US Congress Rep Bill Posey and Pat Keane.

All the honorees and the Purple Heart Recipient readers also received a Quit of Valor (22) from Karmel Sowers not the Space Coast Quilts of Valor Chapter which made the stories and recipients even more honored. Rep Bill Posey read the story of his newest staff assistant, Kieth Van Buren, wounded in Afghanistan and now making major impact in supporting fellow veterans.

The Martine Corps League provided the Color Guard as MOPH Chapter Commander Carl Miller, along with Pat Keane, Russ and Paul Marek, and others worked for weeks to make sure the event was special. Thanks go to Chad and Kitty Stoudt of CSpray who created the beautiful bricks on time and with accuracy.

This ceremony has become a tradition at the VMC as we all remember the price of freedom and what the Purple Heart is all about.



See more VMC articles starting in online section, page 22

The Military Officers Association of America
Cape Canaveral Chapter (MOAACC)
P.O. Box 254186, Patrick SFB, FL 32925-4186
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/ INFORMATION UPDATE.



☐ New Chapter Annual ☐ New Chapter Life ☐ **ANNUAL RENEWAL** ☐ Change of Information

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Member DOB _____

Check appropriate box:

☐ Retired ☐ Active Duty ☐ Widow (er) ☐ Spouse of Member

☐ Regular ☐ Reserve ☐ Nat'l Gd ☐ Former Officer

Member of National MOAA? Y / N Member

If No, may we sign you up for a no-charge MOAA National Basic Membership? _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Chapter Membership \$20
Active Duty/Drilling Reserve:
First Year - No Cost

Life Membership

Age	Fee	Age	Fee
40-49	\$460	80-89	\$155
50-59	\$400	90-99	\$75
60-69	\$330	100+	No cost
70-79	\$235		

Life membership payable over three consecutive months. Make checks payable to MOAACC or pay online at MOAACC.org. Dues and Fees include subscription to **THE INTERCOM** News Magazine and Five Things e- Newsletter.

Mail To Make Luncheon Reservation

reservation

& payment to :

MOAACC:

Attn: Luncheon Coordinator,

P.O. Box 254186,

Patrick SFB, FL 32925-4186

Email reservations to:

events@moaacc.org

[Click Here to RSVP Online](#)

Reservations or Cancellations must be received no later than the Tuesday prior to date of luncheon.

How Many? _____ Check Enclosed ☐ Pay at door ☐

Hot Meal ☐ Cold Meal ☐ Vegetarian ☐

Print Name (s) _____

MOAACC Luncheon

Guest Speaker LTC Ken Harris -
Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp Experiences

Where: Indian River Colony Club
1936 Freedom Dr.
Melbourne, FL 32940
Building No: Colony Hall

Time: 20 Sep 2022 - 11:30am - 1:00pm

Price: \$20

Hot Meal: Lasagna

Cold Meal: Turkey Cobb Salad
(Dressing on Side)

Vegetarian or Gluten Free:
On Request

All meals include rolls & butter,
coffee & tea and the Chef's sweet
choice for dessert. Cash bar available.

Please RSVP/cancel by 14 September
2022. Contact **Grace Catron**
417-294-0798

Sailor of the Quarter presentation on 15 August, at the Port Canaveral Marine Safety Detachment.



Left to Right: Lt Col Joe Tichich, CWO4 Dan McIntyre, MST3 Andres Garcia Rodriguez, LCDR John Di Nino, MSD Supervisor

During this time, MST3 Garcia Rodriguez worked closely with vessel's agents, flag state representatives, ships Captains and shore side security personnel during scheduling of exams. Additionally, he identified deficiencies on foreign ships, drafted official Coast Guard correspondence and completed extensive casework to document the unit's multi mission world of work. He capped that tremendous work by qualifying as a Foreign Freight Vessel Examiner, a qualification typically reserved for 1st Class Petty Officers.

Additionally, he volunteered to fill gaps in the on-call duty rotations, responding to after-hours pollution incidents and security threats within the maritime community. Your valued leadership has been on display by providing training to future marine science technicians, serving at Station Port Canaveral and working closely with the Auxiliary during security spot checks and life raft facility exams.

USCGC CONFIDENCE Sailor of the Quarter



Sailor of the Quarter Certificate and cash award presented to CS3 William Laza Rosado by Dan McIntyre, MOAACC USCG Liaison. Petty Officer Laza Rosado achieved qualifications in multiple roles quickly and assumed the duties of the Senior Culinary Specialist. He received the Commandant's Letter of commendation for his dedication and commitment to serving his shipmates above and beyond the call of duty.

STAY UP TO DATE - VISIT:
www.MOAACC.org

Are you receiving the MOAACC Five Things e-News?
Are you a published MOAACC Author?
← Check out the MOAACC website for more information.



MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION - continued

USCG Birthday, Family Picnic

USCG Birthday Bash a Big Success: MOAACC/ Good Deeds Foundation Attends in Force



IVP Brian Whalen (l), GDF President Donn Weaver, Past President Tim Pishdad (rear), GDF Treasurer Wayne Justice and USCG liaison officer Dan McIntyre present \$500 to the USCG Station Commander CWO2 Phillip Dawalt (center) for the USCG Foundation to help fund the event.



Dan and Mary McIntyre on their way home after a long day showing community support to those who protect us - the active duty USCG. Both Cutters were in port that day for a great photo op!!

After a couple years of covid forced restrictions, the annual US Coast Guard Station Cape Canaveral Service Birthday and Family Picnic returned with many splashes on 05 August. Check out some photos of the festivities in which MOAACC had our canopy and table and GDF provided support, not only to the USCG Station Foundation, but also to the USO which handed out more than 200 stuffed back to school backpacks for Coast Guard Kids. It was a fun day despite the heat, especially for the kids who made full use of the water slide and splash & play blow ups.



Members of Port Canaveral Coast Guard Station and family braved the 90-degree heat to celebrate the 232nd US Coast birthday. Lots of food drinks and cake. Kids mostly enjoyed the water slide and face painting.

MOAACC Photo by Pish

RADM Wayne Justice was on hand to congratulate USCG member Seaman Anthony Martinez

MOAACC Photo by Pish



VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER EVENTS - continued

MORE THAN A GENERATION: Never Forgetting 9/11/2001

There are virtually no high school students, nor even many college students who went straight to college who were alive when terrorists struck the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and tried to hit the Capitol on September 9, 2001. The attacks changed America and ended up costing not only nearly 3000 lives that day, but also over 13,000 since then who have died from toxic exposure or in the fight against the Al Qaeda network and other terrorists that followed weeks later and continues to this day.

In Brevard County there will be several Patriot Day, 9/11 Remembrance Ceremonies, but none bigger than the one at the Veterans Memorial Center on Sunday, September 11, 2022 starting at 4 pm. We hope many in Brevard will attend, especially parents with their children and grandparents with theirs.

Remembering that day is important not only to honor the sacrifice, but also to teach Americans of all ages about the price of freedom and balancing that freedom against the risks that open, democratic societies face. There will be special exhibits, wreath laying and talks by some who were there during the attacks and who served afterwards as well as Sheriff Wayne Ivey. Drinks will be available for the outdoor ceremony along with special music and solemn pageantry. Bring lawn chairs. Golf Carts will help shuttle those needing such assistance.

Active duty and retired Police, Fire, Military and Veteran units and members will be there with a moving ceremony planned. The Program is the result of partnerships with active and retired

First Responders and with active duty military and veterans. Club 1013 (Code on the radio for "Officer Needs Assistance") of retired NYPD and NYFD; the Veterans Memorial Center; and the Good Deeds Foundation of the Cape Canaveral Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America are again teaming up to make it happen.

Contact the VMC on 321-453-1776 for any questions. Please See the Poster and spread the word.



The 2022, Brevard County 9/11 21st Anniversary
Memorial Tribute will be held at:

The Veteran's Memorial Park

Located at:

**400 South Sykes Creek Pkwy
Merritt Island, FL 32952**

CITIZENS OF BREVARD COUNTY JOIN US
AT 4:00PM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022
SUPPORTING AND REMEMBERING THE FIRE, POLICE, EMS,
CIVILIANS, AND MILITARY WHO LOST THEIR LIVES ON 9/11
AND ALL THOSE AFTERWARDS WHO SUFFERED
THE LOSS OF LIFE AND MEDICAL 9/11 CHALLENGES.

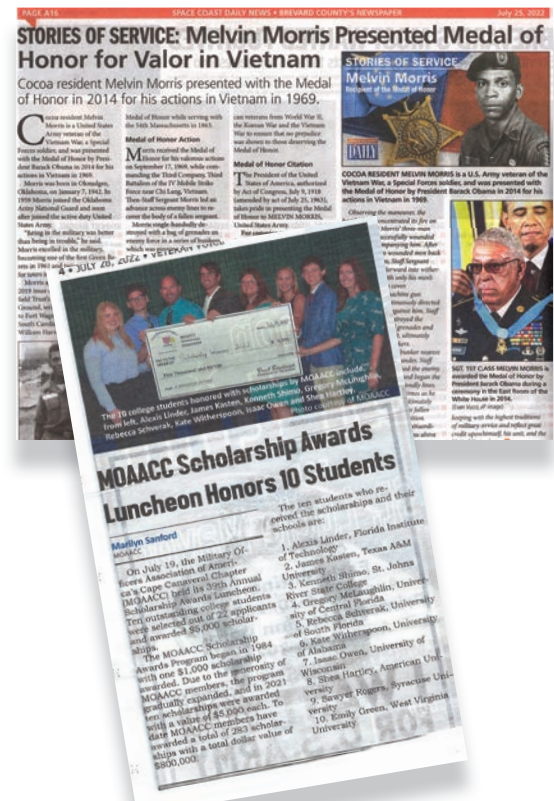
UNIFORM CEREMONY BEGINS AT 4PM.

MOAACC MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Article that appeared in the *Space Coast Daily News* (25 Jul '22 Edition) about Chapter Honorary Member Melvin Morris and his award of the Medal of Honor back in 1914

Article: MOAACC Scholarship Awards Luncheon Honors 10 Students - *Veteran Voice*, July 28

State Senator Debbie Mayfield's *Mayfield Minute* (31 Jul '22 edition) that mentions Chapter member and PP Scott Robinson's Judicial Nominating Commission Appointment from Governor DeSantis



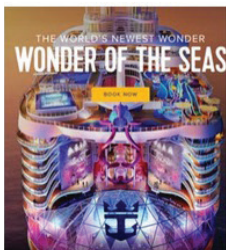
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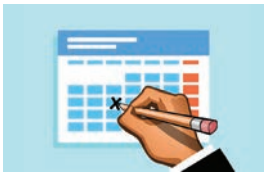
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Unofficial Brevard VMC Vets Calendar

September 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/>

27 Aug — OASIS packing of “care boxes” for deployed overseas troops 0830-1100 in VMC Gray Hall. Supporting will be 60 members of the Elevation Church Outreach Program who will also provide major landscaping support to the VMC grounds.

11 Sep — Remembering 9/11, 21 Years Later : Honoring The Fallen on that Day and those who fell later as a result of exposure to hazardous materials from those attacks; as well as those who went to the fight for over 20 years thereafter. VMC Center, Outdoor Ceremony 1700-1900. SEE POSTER

17 Sep — Unveiling and Dedication of America’s Monument to Fallen Allies in the VMC Gray Hall and Plaza 1000-1230 hours.

17 Sep — Seminar 1300-1700 VMC Gray Hall to inform rising High School Juniors about the admissions process for US military academies and College ROTC scholarships. Sponsored by MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation. Contact Donn Weaver, VMC and GDF (757-871-6576) for more information.

30 Sep — Second Annual NVHS Golf Tournament Fundraiser to support homeless and at risk veterans at Rockledge Country Club 0700-1400. Sign up as sponsor, player or supporter at nvhs.org/events.

07-08 Oct — The Central Brevard “Veteran Stand Down to Stand Up” (Formerly known as Stand Down) event will be held at the Cocoa Armory on 07 October (set up) and 08 October for the actual activity. This event, with a 25 year history, was postponed due to COVID 19 in 2020/21. 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. Planning meetings are being held at the VMC. 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. SEE POSTER.

08 Oct — Raider Challenge JROTC County Meet #1 in Veterans Memorial Park (0700-1230)

15 Oct — Support Committee Cape Canaveral National Cemetery (SC/CCNC) VMC Gray Hall Dinner and Fundraiser - 1600-2000

22 Oct — Raider Challenge JROTC Invitational Meet #2 in Veterans Memorial Park (0700-1230)

27 Oct — BCSO Free Shredder Event at the Veterans Memorial Park 0900-1100.

05 Nov — Raider Challenge JROTC District Championship Meet #3 in Veterans Memorial Park 0700-1300.

08 Nov — Election Day including at VMC which is a polling station.

11 Nov — VMC Veterans Day Ceremony 0930-1100 with lunch by Chick fil a and refreshments, special exhibits, speeches and vendors.

12 Nov — 247th Marine Corps Birthday Celebration 1800-2100 Marine Ball at Radisson Resort Cape Canaveral. Tickets required in advance NLT 01 Nov at \$34.00 per person. Contact MCLBrevard513@gmail.com. for more information and to register.

12 Nov — St Francis Reflections Veterans Dash for LIFE 5K (0800-1200) in the Veterans Memorial Park to celebrate Veterans Day week, honor veterans and raise funds for SFR county wide veteran support programs. Contact Gloria Lorey of SFR 321-423-0506 for more information,

17 Nov — Office of Sen. Marco Rubio monthly office hours for veterans to report issues and questions to the senator. VMC Library 1400-1600. POC: Tom Self 407-254-2573. Appointments encouraged. No office hours at VMC in December.

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.

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 and. was.org to donate for a wreath at \$15.)

LONG RANGE - 2023:

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

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

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- 1300.

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



FEATURED ARTICLE

The China Marines in the Dominican Republic

By Bill Muckler, Captain USMC



Colonel Joseph H. Pendleton decided to move quickly. The Fourth Marines refused to give the enemy time to reorganize its defense. They moved forward that night and by sunrise, the Dominicans arose to find the Marines looking down on them from El Castillo, a hill that dominated the approaches to the city. The rebels wasted no time in arranging for the peaceful entry of the Marines.

Occupying Santiago, Pendleton's Marines found the Dominicans still continued to quarrel over the establishment of a cohesive government. This continued disunity led to the formation of an American military government in the Dominican Republic. The country was divided into zones for occupation purposes by the Marines whose primary mission was maintaining law and order. The provisional governor, and a band of followers, occupied a local fort and refused to lay down their arms. One of the most important tasks of the Marines was the suppression of banditry which at times was both difficult and frustrating for the Leathernecks. Organized banditry did not cease until 1922.

On 7 August 1924, the 4th Marine Regiment, with more than

eight years of continuous duty in the Dominican Republic, departed and sailed from Santo Domingo on board the USS Henderson.

On 1 July 1925, fifteen officers and 299 enlisted men of the 2d Battalion, Fourth Marines were ordered to Santa Barbara, California, to aid local authorities. The city, severely damaged by an earthquake, rendered general assistance to the townspeople. The Marines assisted civilian officials in restoring order, guarding property, and preventing looting.

The China Marines were called upon to perform a peacekeeping mission in 1926. The Marine Corps, for the second time during the 1920s, had orders to protect the United States mail. Following a series of mail robberies in 1926, the Federal Government directed the Marine Corps to furnish units for mail guard duty. The country was divided into two zones

with the 4th Marines designated as the Western Mail Guards. Brigadier General Smedley D. Butler was placed in charge of the Western Zone. Units of the Fourth Marines were deployed throughout the western states. Fourth Regiment Marines not only performed guard service on trains and trucks, carrying the mail, but were also detailed to guard post offices and railroad stations. The employment of Marines as mail guards caused the number of mail robberies to drop sharply within a brief space of time. (Next month: The China Marines in China)



China Marines in Dominican Republic 1916



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