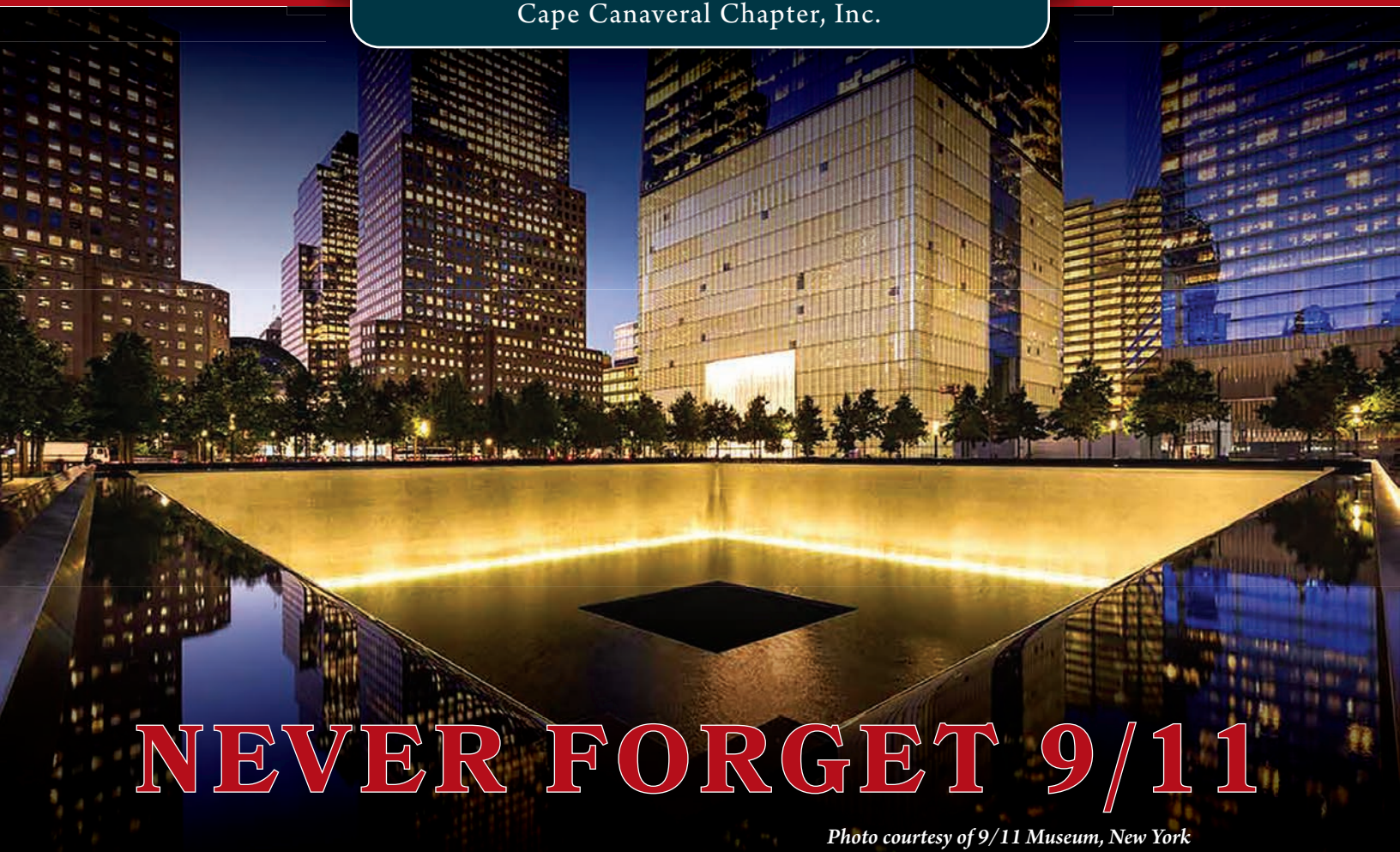




The INTERCOM

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc.



NEVER FORGET 9/11

Photo courtesy of 9/11 Museum, New York



August Luncheon
Page 9



GDF Supports Sea Cadets
Pages 10-11



MOAACC Picnic
Page 12

MOAACC Photos by Fish Pishdad



To take action with MOAA, visit: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>
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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

**Rick Kniseley, Colonel, USAF (Ret),
President, MOAACC**



9-11: A Personal Remembrance

Everyone has a personal memory of 9-11. I was the commander of the Air Force Research Laboratory Space Vehicles Directorate at Kirtland Air Force Base, NM. My impending retirement was near. My replacement was in place starting

his first day of our transition on Sep 11. The day began with a 0630 teleconference with the AFRL Commander and all Laboratory directors. I was up first. I began briefing the status of our key Space Vehicles programs. Everything was going well when my exec came into the briefing room and excused himself and showed me a picture of an airplane crashing into the Twin Towers. I told the commander what I just received. He said he just got the same picture. He told me to continue.

I was coming to the end of my briefing when the exec came back into the room and gave me another picture of a plane crashing into the Twin Towers. I told him he just showed me this picture. He said no it was a picture of a second airplane. The commander said he had the picture. He immediately cancelled teleconference. I received a notification the Kirtland Battle Staff was convening immediately. We were given a very brief situation what had happened in Boston, and New York. We were directed to accomplish the checklists increasing Kirtland Base security posture. Immediately we began accomplishing the necessary steps. Within 10 minutes the security posture was raised to the highest level –including all facilities and personnel being locked down. We were doing everything necessary when we got the notification we hadn't expected –all civilians were directed to evacuate Kirtland (for us including our people in MA) within 1 hour. This was ¾ of all of our personnel leaving us with 50 junior officers, and seasoned enlisted. As we completed security preparation along with the myriad of tasks we had 3 top requirements: complete all security posturing; analyze if any of our space surveillance projects might support Defense Department requirements; and immediately identify location of all personnel on temporary duty and contact them.

In the next 72 hours I could not have been more proud of our personnel. They quickly divided into teams to complete all assigned tasks. All of our facilities were successfully locked down; 2 research projects involving handheld surveillance devices were identified as DoD candidates and shipped to Wright Patterson AFB, OH; and the locations of all of our 110 personnel on temporary duty throughout the US, Asia (including China), and Europe (including Russia) were identified. We began contacting them and their families to ensure their safety and working plans how to get them back to Kirtland. I was most proud we were able to get all of our personnel transportation to Albuquerque with the last engineer arriving 2 weeks after notification.

Each year on 9-11 I always remember the dedication of everyone supporting the needs of our Country and all of the Lab personnel assigned in a time of greatest need.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR & PAO

Amir M. Pishdad, CW3, USA (Ret)



Every four years the excitement builds across the globe as the Summer Olympics return. Athletes everywhere have trained and prepared for their specialized events, their dedication inspired by family, friends, and Olympic role models. As the Olympic game takes form, thousands of volunteers who have

worked and prepared as well, share in the Olympic spirit.

Athletes who have been training for years, with aspirations of becoming an Olympic representative for their Country and winning an Olympic Medal, are also the inspiration of future younger athletes around the world.

The Paris summer Olympics of 2024 did not disappoint America, the "Old Glory" was very busy, as USA athletics celebrated their victories 126 times, tallying 40 Gold, 44 Silver, and 42 Bronze medals!

I congratulate all of the medal winners and participants, for an exciting 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris.

(See photos of the dazzling festivities of the 2024 Olympics online, on page 28.)



LYLES by neck

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

(Click Event for Details)

- 9/5 **Current Affairs Forum - 8 AM**
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 9/10 **"the guys" by Anne Nelson - 10:30 AM & 5:30 PM**
A one-act play based on a true story of 9/11
@ Indian River Colony Club - Colony Hall
- 9/10 **On The Go Luncheon - 11:30 AM**
@ Tuscany Grill - Melbourne, FL
- 9/11 **The 2024 Brevard County 9/11 23rd Anniversary Memorial Tribute - 5:30 PM**
@ Veterans Memorial Park - Merritt Island, FL
- 9/12 **TMBC - 8 AM**
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 9/12 **"the guys" by Anne Nelson - 10:30 AM & 5:30 PM**
A one-act play based on a true story of 9/11
@ Indian River Colony Club - Colony Hall
- 9/17 **MOAACC B.O.D. Mtg. - 9:30 AM**
@ Indian River Colony Club - Chapel
- 9/17 **MOAACC Luncheon - 11:30 AM**
Guest speaker: RADM Wayne Justice
@ Indian River Colony Club - Colony Hall
- 9/19 **TMBC - 8 AM**
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 9/26 **TMBC - 8 AM**
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 President's Perspective,
Executive Editor & PAO
- 3 Article Submission & Rules
- 4 Legislative Affairs
- 5 Financial Literacy,
Survivor Assistance
- 6 Points to Ponder,
Healthy Living
- 7 Mark Your Calendar!
- 8 MOAACC Good Deeds Fdn.
- 9-12 MOAACC Photos
- 14 Membership Brief,
TAPS
- 17 Directory
- 19 VMC Update

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

INTERCOM Photo & Article Submission Rules

PHOTOS:

- Photos must be in "High Resolution" in jpg format and sent as an "Attachment."
- When sending photos, select "actual size" on computer or cell phone.
- Submit one photo per article, or more if absolutely necessary.
- All photos must have "captions" of who, what, when, where and why.

ARTICLES:

- Articles must be in Microsoft "Word" format (Times New Roman, font 11).
- LIMITS: One article per email, not more than 375 words. Each Article must include Author Name & Rank

NEW DEADLINE & SUBMISSION EMAIL:

- **Photos & Articles are DUE NO LATER THAN the 15th of each month, to give our staff enough time for editing. Do not send your submission to Jeremiah, Rita, or Pish. Please send ALL submissions to the following email address:**

intercom@moaacc.org

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- Comments and suggestion are welcome. Contact EXECUTIVE EDITOR: pish104@bellsouth.net

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John R. McMahon, BG, USA (Retired)

After Action Review--Candidate Forum

One of the brilliant innovations our Army adopted in the early 1980s was using a feedback and improvement technique known as the After-Action Review (AAR). It was applied at any level, in any unit, after any event, training or real-world, throughout the Army to learn and improve—Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs), individual performance, unit and staff performance, or even Army-wide change. It was a simple process wherein immediately after the event, unit leaders and those involved in the action would review what happened, what went well, and what needed improvement—3 direct questions that provided a basis for going forward with improved behaviors or streamlined processes within the unit or staff. Each participant would be asked to identify three positives (things to sustain) and three negatives (things to improve) based on their part of the event.

MOAACC recently sponsored a Candidate Forum by inviting each of the five Florida Division of Elections “qualified” candidates running to replace Congressman Bill Posey who is retiring in early 2025. Four candidates accepted our invitation to speak in their own separate session immediately following our weekly TMBC meeting on consecutive Thursday mornings--Daniel McDow (Democrat, West Melbourne) declined until after the primary on 20 August. The candidates were asked to speak about their backgrounds, qualifications and vision for the future followed by a Q&A session. MOAACC provided each candidate with some background about MOAA, its mission, and its non-profit status as an advocacy group, as well as some prospective questions for the Q&A session. IRCC hosted the events, and its residents were invited to join us. No media was allowed. The format lasted one hour and included a 30-minute Q&A session following the candidate’s 30-minute presentation.

Positives:

1. Four candidates accepted and the MOAACC/IRCC audience got a first-hand look at each candidate, up close and personal. We heard each one speak and field our questions while they had to think on their feet. Some stayed late to interact with our members after the formal session ended. SUSTAIN.
2. MOAACC leadership sent the candidates reading material about the MOAA mission and legislative advocacy as well as some prospective questions in preparation for the forum which helped to elevate the quality and relevance of their presentations and the subsequent Q&A. We began to build a close working relationship with each candidate. SUSTAIN.
3. By partnering with IRCC and scheduling the forums immediately following our weekly TMBC, we incurred minimal costs, encouraged participation, enhanced our relationship with IRCC and set the candidates and our members up for an optimal engagement. SUSTAIN.

Negatives:

1. MOAACC/IRCC had a meager turn out of participants, perhaps an average of thirty members, at each forum, a disappointing and troubling trend. What kind of first impression did we leave on each candidate? Are we

(MOAACC) a viable and influential force in Brevard County with respect to our advocacy efforts on behalf of our members and veterans, retirees and active duty servicemembers at large? Did MOAACC/IRCC adequately advertise to get the word out amongst its members? IMPROVE.

2. Some candidates came more prepared than others and it showed in their responses to both our teed-up questions and those from the audience. Most candidates were engaging, articulate, thoughtful, polished, confident, and somewhat versed in our relevant issues. What is encouraging as a voter is to see quality candidates vying for our votes by their willingness to participate and prepare (do their homework) to earn our votes. SUSTAIN.
3. Our format might have been too restrictive to enforce a time limit on each candidate’s answers (intended to allow for a maximum number of questions and to avoid too many questions from one source). On more than one occasion, candidates were cut off from continuing their answers to move on to the next question. IMPROVE.

The four candidates who spoke to our MOAACC/IRCC groups were: Sandy Kennedy (Attorney, Democrat, Cocoa); Mike Hairidopols (Professor/FLA State Senator, Republican, Indian Harbour); Joe Babits (Attorney, Republican, Vero Beach); and John Hearton (IT Businessman, Republican, Satellite Beach). Consistent with our Legislative Advocacy mission, MOAACC is vested in knowing who the candidates are and what they stand for. Now we know.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!
Election day is 5 November 2024.

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FINANCIAL LITERACY

CAPT Arnold Lim, USNR (Ret)

"10 Year Rule" for RMDs of Inherited IRAs

The IRS recently issued its final Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) regulations under the 2020 SECURE Act. RMDs for retirement accounts (e.g., Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs) and 401(k) accounts) have in recent years had numerous regulation changes, like extending the required age to start RMDs from age 70 1/2 years old to up to age either 73 or 75, depending on your year of birth.

Final regulations saw some fine-tuning, including one that has generated some controversy. This rule is known as the "10 Year Rule" and applies to most non-spouse beneficiaries of inherited retirement accounts; the initial regulations were somewhat vague as to whether non-spouse beneficiaries had to: a) take annual RMDs during each of the 10 years following the original account holder's death, or; b) if they could wait and withdraw the entire amount at the end of the decade.

For comparison, when the beneficiary of an inherited IRA is the spouse of the decedent, regulations outline a much simpler scenario. Here the spouse can, for instance, move the IRA into his/her own name and not have to accelerate the withdrawing of funds.

Because of the confusion, this rule will go into effect starting in 2025. The IRS will not impose penalties for annual RMDs that were not taken for years before 2025.

With all that background information, here's what you need to know.

1) Traditional IRAs:

Before the SECURE Act was passed, withdrawals from inherited IRAs could be "stretched out" over the course of the beneficiary's life. The "stretch IRA" was disallowed. Now, most non-spouse beneficiaries of inherited traditional IRAs must withdraw all funds from the account within a 10-year period. This rule applies only to those accounts whose original holder passed away in 2020 or later.

A) If the account holder passed away BEFORE they took RMDs: Under the finalized rule, if a person inherits a traditional IRA from someone who died before the account holder was taking RMDs, then the beneficiary of that account has the flexibility to take the money out at any time and at any rate during the 10-year period.

Example: Dorothy inherited a traditional IRA from her mother Mary, who died at age 65 in 2022 and did not begin to take RMDs before she passed. Under the SECURE Act, Dorothy is subject to the 10-year rule. She has the ability to choose whether to take the money out all at once or spread it out over time, as long as the inherited IRA account is emptied by December 31, 2032.

B) If the account holder passed away WHILE taking RMDs: If the account holder died on or after their required beginning date (RBD) for taking RMDs, then annual RMD payments must continue to the beneficiary during the 10-year period. This is because of the "at least as rapidly rule" (ALAR), meaning that beneficiaries will have to continue taking annual RMDs of at least the amount the previous owner was taking. At the end of the 10th year, any remaining assets must be distributed in full.

Example: Sonny inherited a traditional IRA from his father Dan, who died at age 85 in 2020. Dan was taking RMDs before he passed. Under the SECURE Act, Sonny is subject to the 10-year rule and must continue taking RMDs of at least the same amount as his father Dan, before he passed. Sonny can increase the amount of the RMD if he wishes to. All money must be emptied from the account by December 31, 2030. Due to the IRS waiver of the penalties for missed RMDs in years 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, Sonny does not need to backtrack and take RMDs for those years.

2) Roth IRAs:

Most non-spouse beneficiaries of inherited Roth IRAs are also subject to the 10-year rule, but no distributions are required because Roth IRAs are not subject to RMDs during life. The beneficiary could wait until the end of the 10th year to maximize the tax-free compounding.



SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE LESSONS LEARNED

Lt Col Chuck Shaw, USAF Ret.

The annual Hurricane season has recently started and the TV weather man commented that it potentially might be a busy one. So, it would be wise to make plans and preparations beforehand.

Surviving Spouses can be at a disadvantage to not have their spouse to help make plans and preparations. And a big part of that is to simply know what you should consider doing.

Some of the common sense aspects to be considering are to have an evacuation plan, create an emergency kit (bottled water, non-perishable food, flashlights and batteries etc.), keep your important documents safe (we put really important papers in 2 Gallon Zip Lock bags), reviewing your health plan to know how to get the right help if you are sick or injured if you are displaced, and to make an inventory of your belongings, and see if your insurance level is adequate.

Do you live in an area that is flood prone? If so, review your flood insurance so you know what it covers. Hurricanes can spawn tornadoes (I know, since one hopped over our house!!)

Remember, staying safe is your highest priority, and everything else is just "stuff"!!! So, if you live alone, make a plan with a friend on what you both need to jointly do!!



POINTS TO PONDER

MAJ (Chaplain, USAR Ret.) Bill Adams

A Man Under Authority

Jesus loves authority, including the military kind. Consider His interaction with the Roman centurion, commander over a hundred:

“The centurion answered, ‘Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.’ When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!’” (Matthew 8:8-10, NKJV)

First, note the humility of this military leader: “I am not worthy.” God places great value on this character quality. Humility comes with the confidence of knowing your capabilities and your limitations. This leader knew he couldn’t heal his dying servant, but he recognized the One who could.

Secondly, note how the centurion recognizes Jesus’ authority: “I *also* am a man under authority.” The centurion understands that Jesus has authority to heal because He, like himself, is under authority. The officer is under the authority of his military superior, but whose authority is Jesus under. The highest: His heavenly Father.

Thirdly, note how the officer uses his authority to get things done: “I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes...” Being under authority means having authority. The centurion gets things done—not by bossing his troops around for his sake, but inspiring and leading his men unto mission accomplishment.

Finally, note how Jesus regards this leader’s understanding of authority: “I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!” Jesus regards using delegated authority to accomplish the mission as putting one’s trust and hope in the ultimate authority. The twist here is that being *of* Israel and *among* Israel, Jesus is looking for faith *in* Israel, yet He finds it here, in this unlikely figure, a Roman who recognizes the ultimate source of authority: The God of Israel.

Jesus commends the centurion’s leadership as great faith. He loves God’s authority working down through our ranks. May we who have been schooled in military authority, like the centurion, exercise it unto great faith.

HEALTHY LIVING

CAPT (ret) Rita Shapiro, MA, DPT

Mindfulness



This one word “Mindfulness”, keeps on appearing in the media, advertisements for yoga and Tai-chi, and also those of us who obtain care at the VA, Mindfulness posters are all over the place.

Now you might be wondering what is mindfulness? It is defined: “Mindfulness is a state of active, open attention to the present.”

What is the purpose of mindfulness?

The goal of mindfulness is to cultivate perspective on one’s consciousness and identity that can bring greater peace mentally and relationally. Mindfulness may also be used in mindfulness-based therapies, to address stress, anxiety, or pain, and simply to become more relaxed.

How can it be employed in our lives?

Basically, practicing mindfulness either through yoga, meditation or self-reflection allows us to change the focus from emotional and/or physical pain. One form of mindfulness that is well recognized is having pets. The benefits of Dog therapy are well established. How does it work? Well, dogs help us focus on them rather than on ourselves. Hence, many good things happen such as – drops in high blood pressure, calmness instead of anxiety. A very good example of that is the help many service members get in combating PTSD.

I am no expert in mindfulness but there are many well learned professionals like psychologists and mindfulness therapists that offer tools to practice mindfulness so we can break away from dependence on many harmful pharmaceuticals to control pain, anxiety etc.

References: Psychologytoday.com, mindful.org



INTERCOM CONTENT EDITOR

CAPT (ret) Rita Shapiro, MA, DPT

Prayers for Healing

The Executive Editor and PAO for the Intercom newsletter has been unwell for a few weeks. Please join me and the members of the mighty MOAA-Cape-Canaveral-Chapter in wishing him a get well and heal soon.

This is reminder to us all how fragile our lives are. Let us take care of ourselves so that we can live a life of love for God, Country and Family, as well as happiness and freedom. Above all living the MOAA motto – “NEVER STOP SERVING”



Mark Your Calendar!

Save the Dates for upcoming MOAACC Events:

10 & 12 September 2024: "the guys" by Anne Nelson - A one-act play based on a true story of 9/11

5 October 2024: Past Presidents Dinner

16 November 2024: MOAACC Annual Golf Tournament

19 November 2024: Annual Membership Business Meeting

7 December 2024: Annual Christmas Dinner Dance

17 December 2024: MOAACC Surviving Spouses/ Spouses Christmas Tea

4 January 2025: MOAACC 2025 Installation Banquet

17-19 January 2025: MOAA FCoC Training Seminar & Mini-Convention in Orlando

September 10th MOAACC On-the-Go-Luncheon

Tuscany Grill 6630 Colonnade Ave, Melbourne, FL 32940 (The Avenues in Viera)

Time: 1130-1300. Please sign up during the TMBC meeting or by contacting Toni Lowe at 321-474-6889

RAC & MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation present:

the guys

by Anne Nelson

a one-act play based on a true story of 9/11

Indian River Colony Club,
Colony Hall

Admission is Free

4 performances:

SEP 10, 10:30 am

SEP 10, 5:30 pm

SEP 12, 10:30 am

SEP 12, 5:30 pm



September MOAACC Luncheon

Guest Speaker: RADM Wayne Justice, USCG, Ret. (Port Canaveral Update)

09/17/2024 11:30 AM - 01:00 PM

Location:

Indian River Colony Club

1936 Freedom Drive

Melbourne, FL 32940

Building Number: Colony Hall

Cost is \$25.00 for luncheon. Meal choices are:

1. Chicken Cacciatore with Rice
2. Oriental Salad with Grilled Chicken
3. Vegetarian meals available upon request

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

Please RSVP/cancel by 12 September 2024, online, or by contacting Mary McIntyre at events@moaacc.org or (321) 254-6997. You can [pay online](#) with Credit Card, pay at the door or mail payment with RSVP to:

MOAACC

c/o Michael J Schroeder, Treasurer

PO Box 254186

Patrick SFB, FL 32925

Space Coast Navy Wives' Club

Please join us for our next luncheon on Friday, September 20, 2024, at the TIDES. Social hour begins at 11:30 am and lunch will be served at noon.

Our speaker will be Lauren Possinger, Mass Care Coordinator for Brevard County Emergency Management. Lauren specializes in Mass Care and Sheltering operations among her other duties.

Menu choices are Hawaiian Chicken with rice and broccoli or Chef Salad. Our dessert will be Key Lime Pie.

For reservation and more information, please call or text Ellie Joy at 321-961-2962. Reservations must be made no later than noon, Thursday September 17, 2024.

Remember, friends and family are always welcome.

Members of the Mighty MOAA-Cape Canaveral Chapter:

Mark your calendar to cast your vote for the Chapter leadership in November. See page 18 for a list of nominees.



MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION

Donn Weaver, CPT (USA) Former

*Record Setting Launch for all Brevard County JROTC Programs
for the 2024-25 School Year*



MOAACC Good Deeds Treasurer, Wayne Justice (light blue shirt center) presents \$3K GDF checks to each of the 14 Brevard JROTC Instructor Teams on 05 Aug at the Veterans Memorial Center. Far left red shirt is Cocoa HS's LTC Joe Pavone, USA Ret, JROTC County Program Coordinator for 2024-25 School Year.

Raider Challenge Meets, Rifle and Drill competitions and some others. That cost will likely exceed \$12,000. GDF also will provide \$2000 each to 2 Civil Air Patrol squadrons, 2 Sea Cadet squadrons, and 1 Sea Scout Ship Unit of Brevard County, to support these young people. The total grant of \$64,000 was greeted with smiles and applause by the JROTC instructors, since fund raising can take away from their many other missions.

The meeting also allowed time to plan and schedule seven major Raider and Drill competitions at the 82-acre VMC Park with full support starting in September.

MOAACC has a three-person Student Advisory Committee of Michael Tucker, Hans Hunt and Michael Broski, backed up by the ten member GDF Board and MOAACC's Officers. President is Col Rick Kniseley, himself a former JROTC instructor at Space Coast HS in Brevard. Clearly for MOAACC and VMC "Never Stop Serving America's Future" is much more than a slogan. Good luck to the thousands of cadets in Brevard in the school year ahead.

With new school year starting in less than a week, all Junior Reserve Officer Training Course Instructors from the 14 JROTC Brevard Programs met at the Veterans Memorial Center (VMC) on 05 August. They were there to plan out the year and get support from the Cape Canaveral Chapter of the Military Officers Association, military recruiters and the VMC in many ways.

There are seven Army, three Air Force, two Navy, one Space Force and one Marine JROTC Units from Titusville to Palm Bay. Brevard is clearly one of the most active JROTC Counties in the state, and likely many other states. Last year the average was over 140 cadets in each program.

This year, generous donations to MOAACC/GDF in the past 12 months, allowed providing a record setting \$3,000 each to support the programs. These funds help to cover many costs not available through the DoD Service Branches or the school system. In addition, GDF announced it would again cover the costs of all ribbons, medals and trophies for the 13 competitive events on the schedule including

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August 2024 MOAACC Luncheon

MOAACC Photo by Pish Pishdad



August MOAACC Luncheon guest speaker, James A. Viola, President and CEO of Vertical Aviation International (HAI)



MOAACC Photo by Pish Pishdad

Mr. Viola shares his experiences and vision.

Guest Speaker, James A Viola, President and CEO of Vertical Aviation international (HAI)

James A. Viola, President and CEO of the Helicopter Association International (HAI) was the guest speaker for the MOAACC August Luncheon. Prior to joining HAI in 2020, he served as a Senior Executive for the Federal Aviation Administration. Viola's aviation career began with the US Army, with the majority of his flying done as a special operations MH-6 and MH-47 helicopter pilot. We, at MOAACC were honored to have such a distinguished leader present at our luncheon.

MOAACC Photo by Pish Pishdad



Left, MOAACC president Rick Kniseley, Col. USAF joined by CW3 Jose Prieto, right, presenting a plaque and appreciation coin to MOAACC August speaker James A. Viola



Jose Prieto (r) with Dean and professors from the Everglades University.



Jose Prieto (center-r) and James Viola (center-l) with Everglades University professors.

Good Deeds Foundation Supports C

With the help of 34 MOAACC Members there for a BBQ, the Good Deeds Foundation Presented checks totaling the highest ever annual support grant (\$2000) and another \$1000 to help repair their VMC Based Trailer. At the time, the big and real checks to leader LTJG Heather Owen and the 22 cadets and adult leadership team.



Donn Weaver and LTJG

Courageous Division Sea Cadets Unit

giving \$3000 to the Courageous Division Sea Cadet Unit on 17 August in the VMC museum. The funds included the center of the photo Donn Weaver, GDF President, and Mike Tucker, MOAACC Student Affairs Chair, present



MOAACC Photo by Fish Pishdad

Heather Owen (center)

MOAACC Picnic Was a Huge Success



Jose Prieto (L) bring burgers fresh off the grill while Ellie Joy (R) ensures everyone has all they need.



(L-R) Rosa Reich, Rick Knisley, Steve Bond



CAPT (ret) Arnold Lim selects some Hors d'Oeuvres



Doug Shull the head grill master.



Jose Prieto flipping the burgers.



MOAACC Members mingling.

The MOAACC 2nd Vice President Rosa Reich was instrumental in planning and organizing the first MOAACC picnic held on Saturday 17 August 2024 at the Brevard County Veterans' Memorial Center. The event was a remarkable success with 36 members and spouses gathered for the MOAACC Picnic Social. New members were treated to a golf cart tour of the park by Donn Weaver.

Attendees enjoyed grilled burgers, hot dogs, sides, and camaraderie. We welcomed new and returning members and provided an overview of the partnership between MOAACC and the VMC. The grill masters were MOAACC Members Jose Lupe and Doug Shull who did a splendid job.

The picnic's grand finale was the awarding of \$3,000 from the MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation to the Courageous Division Sea Cadet Unit. Many members expressed they appreciated seeing firsthand what they had been reading in The Intercom or hearing at meetings of the work done by GDF at the park and with Brevard County students.

A heartfelt thank you to the members who made this a successful event: Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, Ellie Joy, Jose Prieto, Doug Shull, and the many others who lent a hand at the event. Kudos to 2nd VP Rosa Reich for a Job Well Done!!



MOAACC Photos by Pish Pishdad

VyStar Foundation is a proud sponsor of MOAACC

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

Mike Gautreaux

Colonel, USMC (ret)

Vice President, MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation



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MEMBERSHIP BRIEF

Following new members were approved by the Board of Directors on 20 August 2024

Name	Rank	Service	Status	Sponsor
Eric Balcunas	LCDR	Coast Guard	Active	Dan McIntyre
Carlos Colon-Robles	MAJ	Army Reserve	Retired	Donn Weaver
Kathleen Donate	Mrs		Surviving Spouse	
Sophia Galdamez	ENS	Coast Guard	Active	Dan McIntyre
Steven Khalil	LTC	Army Reserve	Active	Tim Pishdad
Patricia Tilson	Mrs		Surviving Spouse	
Glenn Weaver	CPT	Army	Former	Donn Weaver
Janice Weston	Mrs		Surviving Spouse	
Robert Irick	LTC	Army	Retired	Donn Weaver

TAPS

MOAA CAPE CANAVERAL CHAPTER
MEMBER, AUXILIARY, and SPOUSE DEATHS
July 2024 deaths listed for September 2024 Intercom

Paul E. Tilson, CAPT, USN
23 July 2024



2024 VyStar Good Deeds Foundation Golf Tournament

**Benefiting Brevard County Military,
Veterans and ROTC/JROTC Units**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024

INDIAN RIVER COLONY CLUB Golf Course

4 PERSON SCRAMBLE

\$125 Per Player

8:00 AM SHOTGUN START



REGISTER TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT IN THE TOURNAMENT

**Contact Larry Jackson,
Tournament Director
larryj59@gmail.com
321-242-1331**

**To Register
Go To
GDFGolf.com**

2024 VyStar Good Deeds Foundation Golf Tournament

Benefiting Brevard County Military,
Veterans' and ROTC/JROTC Units



MOAACC MEMBERS:

We want you to support GDF's Fundraiser Golf Tournament by becoming a Hole Sponsor for a \$100 donation to GDF

We'll place a sign at one of the tournament's tee boxes with your name and a message. Your message can honor a loved one or a fallen comrade.

To support us and purchase a hole sign:
Go to GDFgolf.com

Click:
Become a Sponsor



Then Click



Please Place Your Order Before
September 15, 2025

Contact
Larry Jackson, Tournament Director
larryj59@gmail.com
321-242-1331



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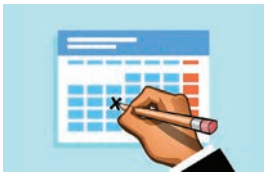
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Unofficial Brevard VMC Vets Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2024 AND BEYOND

Contact VMC for any additions or other information.

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

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

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

07 Sep – Space Coast Honor Flight to Washington DC for selected veterans to visit their memorials. Guardian volunteers and other supporters welcome for ceremony to launch the flight – 0130 hours at the Senior Center in Wickham Park, Melbourne. Contact SCHF on 321-456-7031 or info@spacecoasthonorflight.org for more information.

11 Sep – 23rd Annual 9/11 Remembrance and Patriots Day Ceremony at VMC Plaza 1730-1900. Sponsored by Club 1013 of retired NYPD Police Officers many of whom were in NYC on 9/11/2001. Join us in supporting and remembering the Fire, Police, EMS, Civilians and Military who lost their lives on that day. We will also remember those who gave their lives in pursuit of the terrorists or as a result of 9/11 medical challenges in the decades since. Contact VMC or Club 1013 for more info.

11 Sep – AVET Firearms Fun Night 1700-1800 at Frog Bones Family Shooting Center, 404 South Harbor City Blvd, Melbourne. AVET Fundraiser for their mission to empower military families. Registration required at email info@avet-project.org. Details on AVET web site: www.avet-project.org

21 Sep – JROTC Raider Challenge Invitational Competition at the Veterans Memorial Center Park (0630-1300). Support hundreds of JROTC cadets engaging in five grueling events in 10-person male, female and mixed teams. Hosted by Cocoa HS.

OCTOBER 2024

05 Oct – JROTC Raider Challenge Invitational Competition at the Veterans Memorial Center Park (0630-1300). Support hundreds of JROTC cadets engaging in five grueling events in 10-person male, female and mixed teams. Hosted by Viera HS JROTC.

11 Oct – 8th Annual “Every Day is Veterans Day!” Free Event 1000-1300 at Space Coast Center for Collaboration 1100 Rockledge Blvd/US1 in Rockledge. Presented by One Senior Place and VITAS Healthcare. Special programs, food, refreshments, and Memories. Reservations Required. Call 321-751-6771.

12 Oct – Space Coast Honor Flight to Washington DC for selected veterans to visit their memorials. Guardian volunteers and other supporters welcome for ceremony to launch the flight – 0130 hours at the Senior Center in Wickham Park, Melbourne. Contact SCHF on 321-456-7031 or info@spacecoasthonorflight.org for more information.

31 Oct – BCSO Shred Event in VMC Park 0900-1030. BCSO conducts monthly shred services at various locations and will release their 2024 schedule in January.

NOVEMBER 2024

09 Nov – St Francis Reflections “LIFE stage Care Veterans Day SK” at VMC Park. 0800-0930. Merges into VMC Veterans Day Ceremony.

10 Nov – Seventh Annual Homestretch 5K for At-Risk and Homeless Vets. For details and to register see Latest Events and Updates on: nvhs.org

11 Nov – Veterans Day Ceremony at VMC Plaza 0930 - 1100. Many others in Brevard as well.

16 Nov – Annual MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation Golf Tournament Fundraiser at the Indian River Colony Club 0800-1300. Save the date. Details this summer. Looking for sponsors. Contact Donn Weaver, 757-871-6576.

16 Nov – Annual Dinner and Fund Raiser by the Support Committee of the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery (SC/CCNC) 1730- 2000 at American Legion Post 1, US 1 in Titusville. 50/50 raffles, silent auction, Music by Dave Johnson, great food and more all to support the SC/CCNC during the year. They organize ceremonies and events at CCNC; support the CCNC Director and her team, as well as through the Cape Canaveral Ladies, who make sure no veteran is ever buried alone. Reservations required by 01 Nov to Priscilla Southworth (saavik31324@yahoo.com). Dinner costs \$20 with checks made out to SC/CCNC. Priscilla has all details.

17 Nov – Bowling for Heroes Charity event by Heroes United to Heal Foundation at Palm Bay Shore Lanes 4851 Dairy Rd, Melbourne 1300-1500. Five-man team entry fee is \$70 for each lane with grand prizes available in Juniors (under 21). Corporate/Private Business, Hero (Vets and First Responders) categories. Register your team by email: admin@hu2h.org. The event is aimed at “Striking Out” the stigma of PTSD and vet/first responder suicide.

25 Nov – Senator Marco Rubio’s Staff Mobile Office Hours at the VMC 1300-1500, specifically for Veterans and their families.

DECEMBER 2024

13-14 Dec – JROTC District Air Rifle Championship 0800-1200 Palm Beach Jr/Sr Magnet School. State Qualifier Meet.

14 Dec – Wreaths Across America Day in many Brevard Locations. Cape Canaveral National Cemetery 1000-1200 with details on all WAA events in October.

14 Dec – JROTC District Invitational Air Rifle Meet at Palm Bay HS 0800-1200. Support dozens of cadets from 10 or more High Schools compete at the indoor range for marksmanship team honors. 2

14 Dec – Second Annual Merritt Island Community and Gold Star Family Tribute Christmas Tree Illumination and Holiday Party. VMC Park 1500- 2000. More details in August.

15 Dec – Wreaths Across America at Pinecrest Cemetery/Brevard County Honors Veterans 1400 - 1600, 815 Clearlake Road, Cocoa. Honors also Medal of Honor Recipient Emory Bennett, and all deceased veterans and Gold Star Families of veterans as well as First responders. Rolling Thunder FL-1 Chapter will escort the wreaths from VMC with KSU at 1300. Contact Dorothy Walsh for more information through the VMC.

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

Donn Weaver

donnweaver2020@gmail.com



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CAREER SUPPORT RE Transition (TCS)

Vacant

VETS BACK TO CLASS (JOE FOSS)

CPT Donn Weaver, USA Fmr

VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER

LCDR Dean Schaaf, USN Ret

CPT Donn Weaver, USA Fmr

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MOAACC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

P.O. BOX 254708

Patrick AFB, FL 32925-4708

MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation

PO Box 320358

Cocoa Beach, FL 32932

Members of the Mighty MOAA-Cape Canaveral Chapter:

Mark your calendar to cast your vote for the Chapter leadership in November. Below is a list of all nominations for your consideration. Your chapter! Your Leadership! Look for the voting instructions on the MOAACC Website and in the October 2024 Intercom.



Memorandum for: MOAACC President

August 16, 2024

The MOAACC Nominating Committee is pleased to present the slate of nominees to lead MOAACC for the CYs 2025 & 2026. These candidates are submitted for concurrence by the BoD followed with election by the General Membership during the Annual Business Meeting at the November Luncheon.

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2nd Vice President	LTC Hans Hunt, USA Ret
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Assistant Secretary	Capt William (Bill) Muckler, USMC Fmr
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Assistant Treasurer	LTC William (Bill) Vanasse, USA Ret
Master-At-Arms	CW4 Jose Prieto, USA Ret
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CY 2025 (Term expires Jan 2026)

PP Col Rick Kniseley, USAF Ret
 CDR Kenneth (Ken) Lowe, USNR Ret
 MAJ Timothy (Tim) Pishdad, USA Ret
 CDR Eric Gardner, USN Ret

CY 2025 (Term expires Jan 2027)

Col John Franco, USAF Ret
 Ellie Joy, Surviving Spouse
 CW5 Mike Tucker, USA Ret

Chaplains who were previously appointed by MOAACC President

Lt Col Thomas (Tom) Unrath, USAF Ret
 MAJ William (Bill) Adams, USA Ret

I wish to thank Jeff Rogers & Dan McIntyre who served superbly with me on the Nomination Committee.

Gary D. Eppler

Col Gary D. Eppler, USAF Ret
 Committee Chair

Copy to:
 COL Jeff Rogers, USA Ret
 CWO4 Dan McIntyre, USCG Ret



VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER UPDATE

Recognizing Purple Heart Recipients at a Special VMC Ceremony

By Donn Weaver, CPT, USA (fmr)



Purple Heart Recipients and family members in Gray Hall at VMC



Donn Weaver welcoming everyone



Memorial Bricks of each purple heart recipient that will be placed in the VMC park

More than 160 people came to the Veterans Memorial Center on 04 August, a rainy day with Hurricane Debby lurking, to help honor 11 veterans who gave so much for our country during combat operations. They are recipients of the Purple Heart Medal, representing combat eras from Vietnam to Afghanistan.

Commander Carl Miller of the Military Order of The Purple Heart Chapter 453 and his team, in close coordination with the Veterans Memorial Center, staged the Eighth Annual such ceremony. It always takes place on a Sunday afternoon closest to National Purple Heart Day (07 August) each year.

Eleven honorees were selected this year, including one who was killed in combat operations and whose family accepted for him. Each veteran received an engraved brick which will be later installed at the Purple Heart Monument in the VMC Memorial Plaza; A special Quilt of Valor thanks to Karmel Sowers and her QOV Space Coast Group; a letter and framed certificate of recognition from there Florida State Senate presented by Senator Debbie Mayfield; purple heart pins; and the appreciation of all who attended.

Their stories were shared aloud by other MOPH members, which offered memories and a remembrance of their sacrifices and their battles to become productive citizens, despite their wounds, after a long recovery process. It was an emotional but important way to never forget those who sacrifice while serving.

The Awardees this year were:

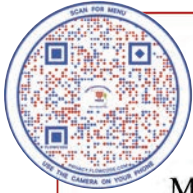
NAME	SERVICE	CONFLICT
Jerry Sancho (Wife/widow Rai Anne Sancho Accepting)	Army	Afghanistan (Killed in Action)
Jim Carleton	USMC	Vietnam
Sylvester McIntosh	USMC	Vietnam
Dave Clayton	Navy	Vietnam
Craig Waskow	Army	Vietnam
Scott Robinson	Army	Iraq/Afghanistan
Kenneth Ondrus	Navy/USMC	Vietnam
Sean Fisher	Army	Iraq/Afghanistan
Victor Perez	Navy	Iraq
Chris Brink	USMC	Iraq/Afghanistan
Chris Donaldson	Army	Afghanistan

VMC President Dean Schaaf welcomed the group and Pastor Troy Countryman provided a moving Invocation and Benediction. The Marine Corps League based at the VMC offered the Color Guard. Many more made sure pre-ceremony toasts in the VMC library went well, along with the ceremony itself and the cutting of a Purple Heart Cake as participants prepared to head to their cars in the steady rain.

The Ceremony reminded those who came the price of freedom enjoyed by all Americans, due to the service and sacrifice of a few.

Photos Courtesy of © R. Scruggs

Please Renew Your 2024 Membership!



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:

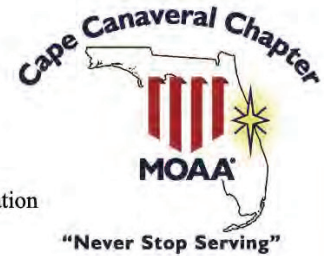
☐ Retired ☐ Active Duty ☐ Widow (er) ☐ Spouse of Member

☐ 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.



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- 19TH HOLE BAR & GRILL

SCHEDULE A TOUR TO LEARN MORE!



RAC & MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation present:

the guys

by Anne Nelson

**a one-act play based
on a true story of 9/11**

4 performances:

SEP 10, 10:30 am

SEP 10, 5:30 pm

SEP 12, 10:30 am

SEP 12, 5:30 pm

Colony Hall

Admission is Free





Guide, Service, & Companion Dogs for Disabled Veterans!

MOAA Florida Council is Partnering with Dogs Inc. to help Veterans-in-need



PROUDLY SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

The Florida Council of Chapters is partnering with Dogs Inc. (formerly Southeastern Guide Dogs) on a state-wide service project to help veterans-in-need obtain elite guide, service, or companion dogs. This project was made possible through a grant from The MOAA Foundation.

Dogs Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. They work to transform the lives of veterans impacted with vision loss, post-traumatic stress, or other disabilities by providing them with these elite dogs. Dogs Inc. breeds, raises, and trains elite guide and service dogs and provides them at no cost, with lifetime care and follow-up services to qualifying veterans. Their campus is in Palmetto, near Bradenton, Florida.

Here is what you and your chapter can do to support this project and transform the lives of disabled veterans:

- **Be a "Scout":** Identify Disabled Veterans who could benefit from a Guide, Service, or Companion Dog. Eligibility requirements to qualify and obtain an elite dog is available on the Dogs Inc. website (www.dogsinc.org/gad-old/dogs-for-veterans/). We also request our members work with other local veteran organizations to share this information with those groups as well.
- **Volunteer:** Volunteers are needed on the Dogs Inc. campus. Chapters in the Bradenton-Sun City-Sarasota and surrounding areas can consider on-campus projects. Across the State, volunteers are needed to be Puppy Raisers (for 3-, 6-, or 12-month periods), and Breeder Dog hosts. See the www.DOGSInc.org website for information.
- **Donate:** Obviously, it costs to raise, train, and provide these elite dogs to veterans. Dogs Inc. does not receive government funding and graciously accepts donations. Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowable by the law. Fundraiser events are also appreciated. Donations can be made online on the DOGSInc.org website or by mailing a check to Dogs Inc, 4210 77th Street East, Palmetto, FL 34221.

For more information about this worthy endeavor, see the Dogs Inc. website at www.DOGSINC.org. If you or your chapter are volunteering or donating, please let them know you are a MOAA member, and we "Never Stop Serving"!



Service Dog Demo at the Dogs Inc. Campus in Palmetto, Florida. Photo Courtesy of MOAA Florida Council

The Role of Aircraft in WWI (Part 8)

By Bill Muckler, Captain USMC

HISTORY. For four years, from 1914 to 1918, World War I raged across Europe's western and eastern fronts after growing tensions, and then the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria ignited the war. Trench warfare and the early use of tanks, submarines and airplanes meant the war's battles were devastatingly bloody, claiming an estimated twenty million KIA and twenty-one million WIA. Combat fighter pilots from both sides came into their own and were dominating the battlefield skies by the end of hostilities.



Manfred, baron von Richthofen Tri-Wing Aircraft in combat

MANFRED VON RICHTHOFEN. The British called him the "Red Knight," the French, the "Diable Rouge," (the "Red Devil"), but German pilot Manfred von Richthofen is best remembered by the immortal sobriquet the "Red Baron."

Born into a family of Prussian nobles in 1892, Richthofen began World War I as a cavalry officer before switching to the German Air Service, the air arm of the Imperial German Army. He scored his first kill in September, 1916, and went on to shoot down a staggering 79 more enemy aircraft by April, 1918. This was more than any other pilot during World War I. As his reputation grew, Richthofen painted his Fokker tri-plane a gaudy shade of red. The move earned the Baron his famous nickname, and his squadron became known as the "Flying Circus" for their mobility and their easily recognizable colors.

Richthofen, a consummate tactician, typically kept his squadron in tight formation and employed superior numbers and surprise to overpower

his enemies. One of his favorite tactics involved using his wingmen to distract his adversaries before swooping in from above and delivering a punishing barrage of machine gun fire.

The Baron often claimed pieces of his downed enemies' planes as trophies, and he even commissioned a set of silver cups to commemorate the date of each of his kills. Like so many of the war's greatest pilots, Richthofen's career ended when he was mortally wounded over the Somme River in April 1918. His body was recovered by Allied forces and later buried with full military honors. In a display of respect for the war's most famous pilot, the Baron's former enemies laid a wreath on his casket that included an inscription to "our gallant and worthy foe." (Next month: The Role Of Aircraft In WWI: Part 9)

NVHS Dinner Sets Fund Raising Records and was Sold Out Without Direct Invites

By Donn Weaver, Cpt, USA (fmr)



The MOAACC Table with VMC and Rolling Thunder in line after. Hats off to Brian Whalen (left) for organizing the MOAACC sponsored table and Dean Schaaf, VMC President for the VMC entry.

The annual fund-raising dinner on 09 August at the Radisson in Cape Canaveral for the Cocoa based National Veterans Homeless Support (NVHS), drew a record 750 guests and raised thousands of dollars for the NVHS missions. Dinner guests, sponsors, the silent and live auctions all led to record proceeds. Check out the details of that gala evening and more about what NVHS does in its unique role in Brevard County at nvhs.org.

The evening began by welcoming all veterans from all branches in attendance via a Roll Call by name and number — an amazing 129 guests stood up and gave their name and branch with more than a few "Go Navy, Beat Army" cries ringing out and vice versa. George Taylor, Jr shared a moving history and update about NVHS, which was founded by his dad many years ago, and remains a true family calling as a 501c3 non-profit organization, unmatched anywhere else in the country (as we know). George confirmed the challenges of today's economy with higher rents and everything else has been demanding for NVHS. They were able to prevent 554 veterans, which included 191 children, from becoming homeless as they dealt with a 20 percent increase in requests for assistance during 2023-24.

Dana Blickley, County Property Appraiser, who leads the NVHS Board of Constitutional Officers, was the MC, and of course, Sheriff Wayne Ivey was the auctioneer who brought down the house and many wallets. LTC Tim Thomas, Melbourne City Councilman and just retired JROTC Instructor at Viera HS, won the NVHS Veteran Advocate of the Year Award and was completely surprised.

Among the sponsor tables of ten were the Cape Canaveral Chapter of MOAA, the Veterans Memorial Center and VMC based Rolling Thunder FL-1. The evening truly was the community effort, including veterans coming together to make sure "no one veteran" is alone in their fight against homelessness.

USCG Birthday and Family Day Well Supported



More than 350 people attended the annual US Coast Guard Birthday and Family Day Celebration at the USCG Point Canaveral Station on Saturday 03 August. It was a hot day with storms threatening, but the USCG personnel, including dozens of children, were well supported by the community and very happy during the four-hour event.

There was plenty of food provided free, by the USO, AVET and others as well as a great USCG Birthday cake to be shared. Kids enjoyed many treats as well as a bounce house and slip and slide. Tours of a USCG Cutter was a big highlight.

MOAACC and the Veterans Memorial Center were among at least 10 veteran and community organizations that sponsored the event and brought tables and canopies to add to the fun and offer information about what we do for active-duty members and their families. Thanks to 2VP Rosa Reich (MOAACC) and Harry Beaver (VMC) for organizing the side-by-side tables.

VMC drew lots of interest about our museum and ways to honor loved ones with bricks, benches and trees, as well as use of the VMC and Park for USCG events during the year. Wayne Barron of the VMC based Fleet Reserve Association IFRA) shared the VMC table and spread the word about what FRA does and how to join.

For the MOAACC table Good Deeds Foundation provided free military related toys for all the Coast Guard kids (\$250 worth purchased at the VMC Museum Sales Store) and give away snacks. GDF also arranged a \$1000 donation to the USCG Foundation to support families during the year and provided funds to both USO and AVET to assist their efforts that day.

It was a great time and showed those who serve and their families that the community recognizes and appreciates that service.



MOC

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USCG Birthday Celebration at Indian River Colony Club



MOAACC Photos by Pish Pishdad

MOAACC Members attend National Space Club Florida August Luncheon

By: Dr. Jane Hodges

MOAACC members, Dr. Jane Hodges and Col (ret) Susie Dabrowski attended National Space Club Florida on 13 August 2024, at the Radisson Resort at the Port – Convention Center, where Janet Petro was the Keynote Speaker.

The Director of KSC, Janet Petro, provided an update of the current issues at KSC, including the need to enhance the infrastructure due to the increased number of launches and limited growth space. Although KSC covers 140,000 acres, it is part of the National Wildlife Refuge; so only 7,000 acres can be used for the space program. A recent Department of Transportation (DOT) grant of \$100 million will update the Cape Canaveral bridge but we were tasked with continuing to provide legislative awareness of the center's needs.

Over 300 space workers and enthusiasts attended the event. (Dr. Hodges, MOAACC Speakers' Bureau, was awarded the NSC Lifetime Achievement Award recently.)



(L to R) Janet Petro, KSC CD, West Point graduate; Bob Sieck, KSC Shuttle Launch Director & AF officer, retired, Colleen Ward, (spouse of LTC Tom Ward, Palm Bay HS ROTC instructor, retired), and Jennifer Kunz, KSC Associate Director



Dr. Jane Hodges (L) gifting personalized Astronaut Nicole Stott (mutual friend) space Barbie to Janet Petro (R). Space Barbies are used in Dr. Hodges talks (MOAACC Speakers' Bureau) with female students as a motivational tool.



Dr. Jane Hodges (R) discussing updates at KSC with Astronaut Andy Allen (L), former Marine aviator and supporter of Jane's aerospace education programs, is now the CEO of Aerodyne Industries, Cape Canaveral.



(L to R) MOAACC members Launch Director Bob Sieck, Dr. Jane Hodges, with Space Force Col. Susie Dabrowski and Wally Nasr.

TMBC Guest Speaker, Dr. Mark Nelson



Dr. Mark Nelson, the Conductor of the Melbourne Community Orchestra (MCO) was the guest speaker at the Current Affairs Forum at the TMBC on August 01, 2024. The MCO is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to providing free musical performances to the community. All of orchestra members are volunteers from Brevard and Indian River counties and include professional, retired professional, amateur, college and high school musicians. For more information and upcoming events please visit www.MCORCHESTRA.ORG

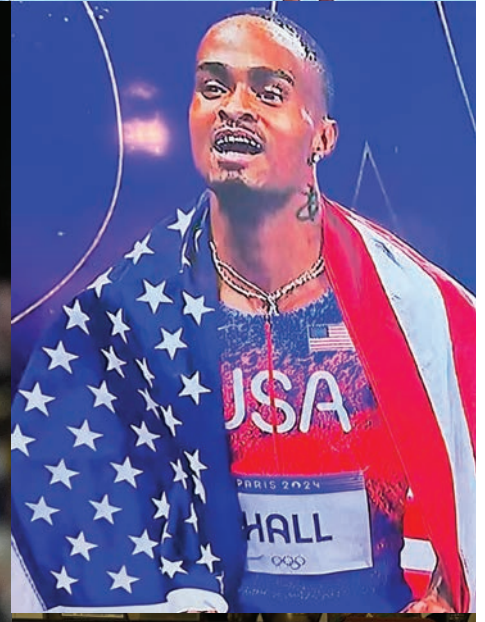


Moments from the 2024 Olympics

Photos captured from live broadcast by Pish Pishdad







OLYMPICS 2024
Hocker takes gold 1500m





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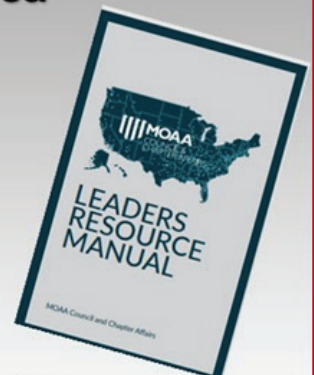


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DAY 4	At Sea - Cruising Tue, Jan 28, 2025	DAY 5	Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Wed, Jan 29, 2025 Docked: 8:00AM to 6:00PM	DAY 6	At Sea - Cruising Thu, Jan 30, 2025
DAY 7	At Sea - Cruising Fri, Jan 31, 2025	DAY 8	Orlando (Port Canaveral), Florida Sat, Feb 1, 2025 Arrival: 7:00AM		

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