

The Calusa Communicator



CCMOAA MONTHLY BREAKFAST MEETING

March 9, 2019 10 AM

Reservations required!

Contact Dixie Buick at

calusamoaa@yahoo.com or

945-5030 by March 6

***Caloosa Club, Cape Royal Golf
Club***

11460 Royal Tee Cir, Cape Coral

Cost \$12.00 – Exact Cash Please

Please Wear Your Nametags

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: COL Tom Wagner, USA (Ret)

Email: Redleg70@gmail.com (608) 658-6254

VICE PRESIDENT: Col Gary Nolan, USAF (Ret)

Email: gnolan0219@gmail.com (618) 407-6945

SECRETARY: Lt Col Gary Peppers, USAF (Ret)

Email: garypeppers199@gmail.com 573-6690

TREASURER: Marilyn Stout

Email: astout34@comcast.net 549-5629

MEMBER AT LARGE: Jean Van House

Email: rjvanhouse@hotmail.com 542-3965

COMMITTEES:

CHAPLAIN: COL Tom Wagner, USA (Ret)

WAYS & MEANS: Col Gary Nolan, USAF (Ret)

SPEAKERS PROGRAM: Marilyn Stout

WEBMASTER/HISTORIAN: Jean Van House

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: Col Robert Van House, USAF (Ret)

PERSONAL AFFAIRS: Carol Turiello

Email: cturiello@aol.com 541-6367

VETERANS AFFAIRS: COL Nick Hubbell, USAR (Ret)

Email: nickhubbell@centurylink.net (240) 381-3975

MEMBERSHIP: Col Gary Nolan, USAF (Ret)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS: Jody Van Cooney

Email: jodyvanc@gmail.com 590-6416

SUNSHINE: Carol Turiello

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Marilyn Stout

NEWSLETTER EDITOR/PUBLISHER: Jean Van House

TOPS: Lt Col John Buick, USAF (Ret)

Email: johnrbuick@comcast.net 945-5030

FINANCE: Lt Col Gary Peppers, USAF (Ret)

Members of the Calusa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, P.O. BOX 100508, Cape Coral, FL 33910-0508, publish the Calusa Communicator monthly, except June, July and August. The Chapter is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, affiliated with National MOAA and the Florida Chapter of Councils, MOAA, not associated with the Department of Defense. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of MOAA, the Florida Council of Chapters, the Chapter, or DOD.

HOMELESS VETERAN LAUNDRY PROGRAM



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MARCH 2019

Our second Annual Armed Forces Golf Tournament took place last Saturday. We had a beautiful day and a fantastic turnout! The net proceeds were approximately \$4700.00 for our scholarship fund, including a generous gift from the Swain Family Foundation which provides a \$1,200 scholarship.

I want to thank Gary and Cindy Nolan and their entire family, without whom an event like this would not have been nearly as successful or even happened! Their tremendous effort, expertise, and commitment have served us well for two years in a row. As well, thank you to the volunteers who made sure everyone was registered and warmly welcomed – Jean van House, Gary Peppers, Jim Arnold, Bill Smith, and my dear wife of over 48 years, Gloria!

Special thanks to Bill and Janet Deile, who traveled to North Fort Myers High School to present our contribution of \$2,000.00 to JROTC of Lee County for the Award Trophies to be presented at the drill meet Saturday afternoon.

I **encourage you to consider** attending the 2019 FCOC Convention hosted by the Tampa Chapter at the Safety Harbor Resort & Spa June 20 -23. A link to the details is on our website or click here - <http://www.moaafl.org/Convention.aspx>

I ask each of you to visit the Legislative Action Center <http://takeaction.moaa.org/home?25> at least monthly. It took me less than five minutes to send 5 messages to our legislators. This is just one easy way you can fulfill the promise of "Never Stop Serving" and impact legislation to benefit all who will, are, and have served this great nation in uniform.

Continue to talk to friends and people you meet and "Engage – Educate – Encourage" them to join us! Give them one of our business cards and our flyer.

Ask to send them an email or a text message – include this link to the video "Why MOAA" <http://www.moaa.org/WhyMOAA/> and follow-up with a personal phone call.

See you on **March 9th**. Don't forget to make your reservation on our website or e-mail or call John & Dixie Buick.

Tom Wagner

I want to remind everyone that we are passing a can for donations at every meeting. The proceeds go to Brenda Dalton, who provides laundry detergent and coins for the machines at the N. Ft. Myers Laundromat on Pondella. We collected \$25.00 at the February Meeting.

NOTE: I have just learned that this is called "Project Suds" just so you will know what I am talking about in the April newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Membership Meetings - 10 AM at the Caloosa Club - Cape Royal:
Saturday, March 9
Saturday, April 13
Saturday, May 11



CCMOAA BOARD MEETING 7 Feb 2019

CCMOAA President Wagner called the meeting to order at 1013.

Directors present:

- Vice President Gary Nolan
- Secretary Gary Peppers
- Treasurer Marilyn Stout

Others present:

- James Arnold, Finance Committee Member

President's Remarks:

- Number and amount of scholarships to be awarded in 2019 was confirmed at 3 for \$1200 each, unless recipient is also selected by the Cape Coral Mayor's Scholarship Committee, in which case CCMOAA will provide \$1500.
- Need to order certificates and medals to present to JROTC grads at their awards ceremony. BoD approved necessary expenses for this year's requirements.

CCMOAA Meeting Minutes 9 Feb 2019

- BoD also authorized purchase from MOAA National commemorative glass sets for guest speaker presentations; total expenditure is \$118.50 including JROTC materials.
- BoD authorized \$96 for purchase of new CCMOAA banner from local vendor.
- Chapter needs to send one rep to JROTC Drill Competition 23 Feb (same date as golf tournament) to represent MOAA. TBD.

Committee Reports:

- Finance Committee reports current total invested funds of \$29,155.78. Committee has elected to keep most of CCMOAA investments in cash for now, will re-evaluate at the end of the month.
- No other committee reports were presented.

Unfinished Business:

- VP Nolan gave an update on the golf tournament on Saturday 23 Feb: shotgun start at 0800, participant slots nearly sold out. Chapter volunteers should be on hand by 0730. Mariner High School color guard will open at 0745. Expenses to date total \$252.

New Business:

- VP Nolan suggested that CCMOAA apply for 501(c)(3) status, either in addition to or in lieu of our current 501(c)(19) certificate. This would enable large donors and foundations to make tax-deductible gifts which they cannot do under 501(c)(19), unless the veterans org is comprised of at least 90% war veterans. As CCMOAA members are mostly retired career military officers, Treasurer Stout pointed out, our chapter appears to be in compliance with the 90% rule. BoD voted to table the motion in favor of providing the exact 501(c)(19) citation to prospective donors with the assertion that CCMOAA fully complies with that provision.
- Pres Wagner proposed that the Chapter buy a quarter page ad in the next FCOC convention program for \$75.00, as is customary. Motion passed unanimously.
- With no other items of New Business to discuss, Pres Wagner adjourned the meeting at 1124. **Gary Peppers**

CCMOAA President Tom Wagner called the meeting to order at 1003. He welcomed the 31 members in attendance and led them in the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance after which he welcomed our guest speaker, Cape Coral Police Chief David Newlan.

After break for breakfast, Pres Wagner recognized Speakers Committee Chair Marilyn Stout to introduce Chief Newman. The chief spoke to us about Cape Coral's challenges and the department's restructuring efforts to meet them. Of particular concern is the ongoing threat of violence in Cape Coral schools, which the city and the department are addressing with serious concern. He closed by reminding us all to LOCK OUR CARS to eliminate 90% of the city's crimes of opportunity. Pres Wagner presented Chief Newman with our traditional memento of MOAA tumblers to enthusiastic applause from the members present.

Pres Wagner then called the business meeting to order at 1110 and opened with a request for officer reports.

Officer Reports:

- Vice President: nothing to report as VP, other remarks deferred to Committee Reports.
- Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted for audit as published in last newsletter.
- Secretary's minutes as published were unanimously approved without exception.

Committee Reports:

- Finance Committee Chair Gary Peppers presented a verbal report: Total investments are \$28,967.14 after a \$2,000 transfer to CCMOAA's bank checking account. \$19,324.09 is in the Scholarship Fund and \$9,643.05 in the Operations Fund. Only \$6,000 is currently invested in mutual funds since the Finance Committee elected to take a primarily cash position early in January following what they considered to be excessive market volatility. The committee will reconsider its position late this month.
- Ways and Means Committee Chair Gary Nolan reported details of the golf tournament and asked for members to volunteer to help, particularly with the sign in and collection of funds early on the

morning of the event. 64 are currently signed up to play and two other promised foursomes will complete the field at \$75 per person. Col Nolan encouraged members to solicit contributions in the form of gift cards, donations of services, cash, or sponsorships from their favorite restaurants and vendors. A data sheet specifying the levels of donations and their benefits has been uploaded to CCMOAA's website. Additionally, USAA has contributed \$300 to the event.

- Speakers Committee Chair Marilyn Stout reminded the members that it is our aim to alternate outside guest speakers with one from our own membership in order to get to know our diverse military backgrounds and to benefit from their experiences.
- Pres Wagner recognized Carol Turiello, Personal Affairs Committee Chair, for her quick compliance with MOAA's requirement to account for any deceased members in 2018.
- No other committee reports were presented.

Unfinished Business:

- No further items to discuss.

New Business:

- Lt Col Peppers announced that tickets for the Cape Coral Mayor's Scholarship Fund, Inc. fund-raiser were available for \$35 each. To be held on Thursday 21 March, the event is a dinner followed by the "Ripcord Comedy Show" at the Cultural Park Theater, including auctions and raffles and free wine and beer.
- President Wagner then called for any new business for the good of the order. Seeing none, he adjourned the meeting at 1135.

Gary Peppers



**LEGISLATIVE REPORT
MARCH 2019**

The Blue-Water Navy Bill has stalled. This bill would have allowed offshore Navy ships to claim exposure to Agent Orange. Agent Orange is connected to several cancers and other long-term illnesses. In the House, the bill passed without a single nay vote. Whereas the Senate went for a unanimous consent vote which can be stopped by a single

Senator's dissent. Senator Mike Enzi objected, citing funding concerns. Since the new Congress was sworn in on January 3, the process must start over again with them. The VA Secretary, Robert Wilkie, questioned the scientific evidence and objected to the cost projections. He requested a hold on the legislation until a completion of an ongoing VA study.

Several upgrades have been implemented to streamline the delivery of services in the VA. One of them has to do with Customer Service in that the VA has modernized its home page. Benefits will allow service members filing disability claims between 90 and 180 days before they separate from service to receive a decision on their claim within 30 days of discharge. The VA has also joined other departments to supply free legal service for veterans.

CCMOAA Financial Report:

Operating Funds	31 Jan 19
Bank Opening Balance	\$181.75
Expenses	
FCOC Dues	\$66.00
Bank Charge	\$5.00
Bank Closing Balance	\$110.75
Fidelity Funds	\$10,321.72
Total Operating Funds	\$10,432.47
Scholarship Account	
Scholarship Opening Balance	\$1,301.01
Income	
Dues	\$300.00
Scholarship	\$100.00
Golf Deposit	\$1,315.00
Fidelity Funds	\$2,000.00
Expenses	
Bank Charge	\$5.00
2 JROTC Scholarships	\$2,400.00
FCOC Convention	\$952.00
Insurance	\$401.00
Flag Repair	\$70.71
Scholarship Ending Balance	\$1,187.30
Fidelity Funds	\$18,960.21
Total Scholarship Fund	\$20,147.51
Grand Total	\$30,579.98



January 10, 2019

To: Florida Council of Chapters MOAA Members and Guests

Subject: **HELPING HANDS HELPING HEROES** – 2019 FCOC Convention – June 20-23, 2019

WELCOME to members and guests from chapters across the state and beyond. The Tampa Chapter invites you to join us for the 2019 FCOC convention, held June 20-23 at the 5 Star Safety Harbor Resort and Spa, located in beautiful Safety Harbor a treasure gem nestled on the sparkling shores of Tampa Bay. Our theme is ***Helping Hands Helping Heroes***.

Our theme emphasizes the focus of our chapter on the Operation Helping Hand program which provides financial and emotional support to wounded military being treated and recovering at the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital. On Thursday evening, the first 50 attendees that sign up will be transported to the VA hospital and get the privilege of attending the monthly OPHH dinner where they can meet the military members and their families. The dinners are sponsored by local businesses. Those attending will be treated to a tour of the virtual reality room opened in May 2018. Friday's main convention event will be the President's Welcome reception. After that attendees can enjoy the local area by literally just walking outside the Resort's doors for a special treat. Main Street is closed for the 3rd Friday Music Series featuring shopping, dining and entertainment for locals and visitors alike to relax and enjoy themselves. Saturday will start with a plated breakfast and a guest speaker followed by a memorial service for friends we lost the past year. Convention activities, to include the business meeting and informative presentations, will occur during the day with the Military Ball topping off what will be a great experience in Safety Harbor.

The Resort is conveniently located near downtown Safety Harbor. In addition to the stunning views of Tampa Bay, there are a number of other things to do in the immediate vicinity of the Resort. Just a few suggestions include: Ruth Eckerd Hall for concerts or shows, golf at one of several local courses, or take a stroll on the historic city walk. If you want to just stay in and relax, the Resort is offering special pricing for the award winning SPA facilities and salon. If you would like to extend your stay, the special pricing for the convention can be extended three days before and/or three days after the convention.

We are excited to have you join us for our annual convention and want you to have a memorable experience during your stay. Make your plans now to take advantage of all this beautiful resort and surrounding area have to offer.

Lewis L. VanDyke
COL USA (Ret)
Convention Chairman

THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (CCMOAA)
P.O. BOX 100508, Cape Coral, FL 33910-0508
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/DIRECTORY UPDATE

New Chapter Annual Renewal Membership Change of Address

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____
Please Print

(Spouses, Widows, Widowers, are welcomed as chapter members.)

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Member DOB _____

Check appropriate boxes: Retired Active Duty Widow(er) *Associate

*Associate members have the same privileges as other members except that they are ineligible to vote.

Regular Reserve National Guard Former Officer Senior NCO

MOAA National Membership No. _____ MOAA Life Member? _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Dues Amount \$ _____ Scholarship Program \$ _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please include a check for \$30.00 (New member's 1st year dues are free.) The check should be made payable to CCMOAA and mailed to: CCMOAA, P.O. Box 100508, Cape Coral, FL 33910-0508 Attn: Treasurer

Special Notes: Dues are late after March 31st. Please pay your dues early!
A lifetime MOAA membership does not mean your chapter membership is lifetime.

-----*To Be Completed By Treasurer*-----

Date Received ___/___/____ By Mail In Person

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ Cash Amount \$ _____

God Bless America!

Four Star Excellence Award Recipient 2005-07 - 2013 to 2017

Five Star Excellence Award Recipient 2006 - 2008 to 2012



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