



Heartlander

South Central Florida Chapter
August 2019



South Central Florida Chapter of MOAA

P.O. Box 7841
Sebring, FL 33872



Chapter Officers:

President: Mike Borders, tel. (h) 863-402-8292; (c) 703-795-8776
Vice President: Fred Carino, tel. 863-381-3636
Treasurer, David Grey, tel. 785-282-5445
Secretary: Mark Milia, tel. 407-222-4867
Recruiting/Retention: Ed Gadbois, tel. 808-280-7773
Legislative Affairs: Tom Nunnallee, tel. 863-446-0055
Personal Affairs: Craig Smith, tel. 207-703-3402
Newsletter: Bob Brooks, tel. 863-471-6318
Past President: Roy Whitton

Our Web Site: www.scfcmoaa.org

Florida Council of Chapters website: www.moaafl.org

Take Action. MOAA Legislative Action Link:

<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/?tab=Legislative-Action-Center#Legislative-Action-Center>

7 August 2019. Board Meeting: 1700 (5:00 PM) Business Meeting, 1830hrs (6:30 PM). Venue: Sea Services Museum, 1402 Roseland Ave., Sebring, FL 33870, (corner of Kenilworth and Roseland, about a mile east of Sebring High School).

13 September 2019. Dinner/Social with spouses/better halves/significant others: 6:30 PM, Caddy Shack. 3122 Golfview Road, Sebring, FL

ANNOUNCEMENT: NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING— 7 November 2019

The 7 November dinner/social at the Island View restaurant in Sun N' Lakes will also be the Annual Meeting of the chapter. We will elect new board members, discuss our finances, and determine chapter dues for 2020 (no change anticipated). Members wishing to bring anything to the attention of the assembly are welcome to do so. The board would appreciate advance notification of anything a member wishes to bring up, but this is not required. Anyone wishing to serve on the board in any position should contact the chapter president or a member of the board at the earliest opportunity. A Nominating Committee will be appointed and contact information provided in the next newsletter and on our website: www.scfcmoaa.org. Phone numbers of board members are on the front page of this newsletter. Spouses are welcome and eligible to serve in any position except chapter Vice President or President.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT by the PRESIDENT:

When we stood the chapter up four and a half years ago, I was appointed for one year as the chapter president by the state council president. I was elected a year later for a two-year term, and then reelected for another two-year term. That term is up in January. We will soon be appointing a nominating committee to fill vacancies on the board for the next term. The election will take place during our Annual Meeting in November. A few of the current board members have agreed to stay on, and we have two volunteers to take some of those positions. But we need—I need someone to step forward and take the chapter president's position. The job isn't that hard, and probably only requires an average of about ten hours per week. That isn't that much, and is often a great way to get away from the "Honey-do" list (don't tell Diana I said that). I would happily stay on, but I will become the state president in May, and those duties and responsibilities are significant. I will be here and will continue to help the new president as the "Ex-Officio", per the bylaws. I know you folks value the chapter. I do too. I ask that someone step up to the plate. You won't be alone or on your own. We have a great board, and like I said, I'll be around to help. I don't want the chapter to falter or fail any more than you do. If you are interested, please contact me. By the way, it really isn't that hard, and it really is a lot of fun! And best of all, it is very rewarding.

President's Message:

As we move through the "dog days of summer," we note the absence of our Snowbird friends and we miss them. It leads to a bit smaller crowd at our dinners and meetings, but we will press on. As the state of Florida VP for MOAA, I visit chapters all over the state. Those chapters that take a few months off in the summer lose tremendous momentum, and have a hard time getting restarted in the September or October timeframe. At our recent dinner/social, we talked about ideas for upcoming field trips. These would take the place of the meetings at the museum, and like the visit to the Avon Park Bombing Range, are open to everyone. A couple of ideas that came up were a visit to the gyrocopter factory here in Sebring, as well as a possible visit to the NOAA Air Operations Center in Lakeland. We are open to other ideas and welcome your inputs and thoughts. We also discussed doing a "gala" dinner/social in the December/January timeframe. We think January might work best, and will put this together. Yes guys, this means putting on a suit and tie. Our ladies like dressing up and want us to look right for the occasion. More to follow, but it (Cont.)

President's Message: (Cont.)

will likely be the first or second week of January. We also again discussed NOT sending our monies collected in the 50/50 drawings and via donations to the MOAA National Scholarship fund. This fund has plenty of money. The consensus is that we would provide a cash grant to one outstanding cadet headed to either one of the military academies or to a senior ROTC program. We would work with the OIC at each of the six high schools we support to identify the cadet. If the OIC doesn't have a qualified candidate, we would divide the money for the remaining five schools, and so forth. We will take a vote on this at an upcoming meeting.

Our next meeting is on 7 August at the Sea Services Museum. 1830 hours. Be there or be square!!

Did You Know? VA Overhauls Religious and Spiritual Symbol Policies to Protect Religious Liberty

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently revised its directives permitting religious literature, symbols and displays at VA facilities to protect religious liberty for Veterans and families while ensuring inclusivity and nondiscrimination.

The move aims to simplify and clarify the department's policies governing [religious symbols](#), and [spiritual and pastoral care](#), which have been interpreted inconsistently at various VA facilities in recent years, resulting in [unfortunate incidents](#) that interrupted certain [displays](#). Effective July 3, these changes will help ensure that patrons within VA have access to religious literature and symbols at chapels as requested and protect representations of faith in publicly accessible displays at facilities throughout the department.

"We want to make sure that all of our Veterans and their families feel welcome at VA, no matter their religious beliefs. Protecting religious liberty is a key part of how we accomplish that goal," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "These important changes will bring simplicity and clarity to our policies governing religious and spiritual symbols, helping ensure we are consistently complying with the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution at thousands of facilities across the department."

The new policies will:

- • Allow the inclusion in appropriate circumstances of religious content in publicly accessible displays at VA facilities.
- • Allow patients and their guests to request and be provided religious literature, symbols and sacred texts during visits to VA chapels and during their treatment at VA.
- • Allow VA to accept donations of religious literature, cards and symbols at its facilities and distribute them to VA patrons under appropriate circumstances or to a patron who requests them.

(Cont.)

VA Overhauls Religious and Spiritual Symbol Policies to Protect Religious Liberty (Cont.)

The [U.S. Supreme Court](#) recently reaffirmed the important role religion plays in the lives of many Americans and its consistency with Constitutional principles. This includes the following values: a display that follows in the longstanding tradition of monuments, symbols and practices; respect and tolerance of differing views; and endeavors to achieve inclusivity and nondiscrimination.

Did You Know 2? ? VA extends Agent Orange Presumption to 'Blue Water Navy' Veterans

Eligible Veterans may now be entitled to disability compensation benefits

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is preparing to process Agent Orange exposure claims for ["Blue Water Navy" Veterans](#) who served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975. These Veterans may be eligible for presumption of herbicide exposure through [Public Law 116-23, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019](#), which was signed into law June 25, 2019, and goes into effect Jan. 1, 2020. They may also qualify for a presumption of service connection if they have a disease that is recognized as being associated with herbicide exposure.

The bipartisan Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act gives VA until Jan. 1, 2020, to begin deciding Blue Water Navy related claims. By staying claims decisions until that date, VA is complying with the law that Congress wrote and passed.

"VA is dedicated to ensuring that all Veterans receive the benefits they have earned," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "We are working to ensure that we have the proper resources in place to meet the needs of our Blue Water Veteran community and minimize the impact on all Veterans filing for disability compensation."

Blue Water Navy Veterans are encouraged to submit disability compensation claims for conditions presumed to be related to Agent Orange exposure. Veterans over age 85 or with life-threatening illnesses will have priority in claims processing.

Veterans who previously were denied for an Agent Orange related presumptive condition can file a new claim based on the change in law. Eligible survivors of deceased Blue Water Navy Veterans also may benefit from the new law and may file claims for benefits based on the Veterans' service.

The new law affects Veterans who served on a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia, as defined in [Public Law 116-23](#). An estimated 420,000 to 560,000 Vietnam-era Veterans may be considered Blue Water Navy Veterans.

To qualify, under the new law, these Veterans must have a disease associated with herbicide exposure, as listed in [38 Code of Federal Regulations](#) section 3.309(e). (Cont.)

VA extends Agent Orange Presumption to ‘Blue Water Navy’ Veterans (Cont.)

Agent Orange presumptive conditions are:

- AL amyloidosis
- Chloracne or similar acneform disease
- Chronic B-cell leukemias
- Diabetes mellitus Type 2
- Hodgkin lymphoma, formerly known as Hodgkin’s disease
- Ischemic heart disease
- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, formerly known as Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- Parkinson’s disease
- Peripheral neuropathy, early-onset
- Porphyria cutanea tarda
- Prostate cancer
- Respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx or trachea)
- Soft-tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma or mesothelioma).

For more information about Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam waters (Blue Water Navy Veterans), visit <https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/navy-coast-guard-ships-vietnam/>.

Veterans seeking more information should contact their [Veterans Service Officer](#), call VA’s toll-free number at 800-827-1000 or visit the VA Blue Water Navy Agent Orange [website](#).

Did You Know 3? It’s Time for a Retired Pay Account Checkup

It’s important to regularly review and update your retired pay account. Keeping your account current will ensure that DFAS can get in touch if there is information you need to know about your retired pay and help make sure that outdated information doesn’t cause difficulties for you or your loved ones down the road. Use this handy roadmap to perform a retired pay checkup at least once a year.

1. Is your mailing address current?

You might be surprised to learn that DFAS gets a lot of returned mail. If you’ve moved and haven’t told DFAS, they won’t know how to reach you. Keep the lines of communication open! Log in to your myPay account and check your “Correspondence Address” under “Pay Changes” on the side menu as part of your annual account check-up: <https://mypay.dfas.mil>

2. Do you have a current email address in myPay?

Make sure DFAS has an email address in myPay and that it is current. Email is the easiest and fastest way to communicate with members. If DFAS has your email address, you will hear news faster.

Take a minute right now and check to make sure your email address(es) are current. At the top of your myPay account menu, select “Personal Settings” and then in the side menu on the left, select “Email Address” to view the email address(es) you have on file. Make sure you (Cont.)

Did You Know 3? It’s Time for a Retired Pay Account Checkup (Cont.)

Make sure you indicate the primary email address you want to use, and check the box to indicate if the address is still valid. Delete any old email addresses you no longer use.

3. Is your federal and state income tax withholding correct?

If your income changes, you move to another state, or there are changes in the tax laws, you should look at the federal or state income tax withholding information in your account. Don’t wait until tax season to discover your withholding is incorrect! You can verify and update your tax withholding information yourself in myPay. Click on “Federal Withholding” or “State Withholding” under “Pay Changes” in the menu on the left to see if your withholding is correct.

4. Are your allotments correct?

Review your allotments at least once a year. Look under “Pay Changes” for “Allotments” in the menu on the left side of your myPay account. Check each allotment and the allotment amounts. Make sure each allotment is current and the amount is correct. Please keep in mind that some allotments cannot be changed using myPay. Some of the common allotments that cannot be changed using myPay include FEDVIP, Tricare and NSGLI. If you have a question about any allotments that you cannot change on myPay, please contact that company or organization directly.

5. Have there been changes in your family?

If you get married, lose a spouse, or have a child, the change can affect your account. You may need to change your income tax withholdings or notify DFAS to change your Survivor Benefit Plan information.

If there have been any changes in your family, please send us a copy of the official documentation (marriage license, divorce decree, death certificate or birth certificate), as well as a request for how you want DFAS to update your account. Always notify DFAS as soon as possible about a major life change. You can fax your documents to 1-800-469-6559 or mail them to DFAS, 8899 E 56th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200. Make sure your Social Security Number is clearly visible on each document so they can identify your account to update it.

6. Is your Arrears of Pay beneficiary correct?

Who did you choose as a beneficiary for any arrears of retired pay that may be due when you pass away? Make sure your designation is current and confirm that your beneficiary’s address is up to date.

You can check this information by clicking on the “Beneficiary for Arrears” link under “Pay Changes” in the menu on the left side of your account in myPay. You can make changes to your designation and update their address information through myPay.

7. Is your Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) coverage and beneficiary(ies) correct?
Your Retiree Account Statement (RAS), available in myPay, has a lot of information on it about your (Cont.)

Did You Know 3? It's Time for a Retired Pay Account Checkup (Cont.)

pay, deductions, taxes and SBP. The SBP section has five lines on it for members who participate in SBP. The most important for you to check: your type of coverage, and date of birth of your spouse beneficiary (if applicable). See the article in this issue, Checking Your SBP Coverage on Your Retiree Account Statement, for more details on how to verify your SBP coverage using your RAS.

So, pick a date! It doesn't matter if it's April 15, your retirement date, your birthday, or the first of the year. Set a yearly reminder to look over your information to make sure your account is up to date!

Did You Know 4? What the Grant from MOAA National is all About

A little over two years ago chapter member Mackie Boone alerted me to a small item in the *Military Officer* magazine put out by MOAA National. It was something about monies being available through some kind of grant program. I called the contact at MOAA and got an explanation. There were lots of things we *couldn't* do with the money, and there was a limited scope to what we could do. I asked if we could take the money and give it to a local organization that helps veterans and their families. He asked if the MOAA chapter was actively involved with that charity, sat on the board, participated in the program, etc. The answer was no. So, nope—can't do that. I mentioned to him that we are part of the Highlands County Veterans Council (a 501.c.3), a grouping of veteran groups from A to Z here in the area. I noted that the Veterans Council operates an assistance fund for needy veterans and their families, as well as a food pantry, as well as providing less fortunate veterans with Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets. Since our MOAA chapter is an active member of the organization, has a say in the policy, and is involved in the process, he said we should apply for a grant along those lines. So, I submitted an application. Our chapter was among the first six or seven in the country to receive this grant--\$3299 the first time. I submitted again a year ago, and we received \$5,000. (By the way, more and more chapters started to see the light along the way). I submitted again this year and we received \$3750. It isn't that MOAA doesn't see our program any differently than previously, but there are limited funds and more chapters competing for them. This year the chapter board added \$250 to the monies to make it an even \$4,000. So, in the space of two years, we have donated \$12,299 to the Veterans Council, with the monies specifically designated for the Veterans Assistance Fund and the food pantry/holiday baskets. By the way, 15% of the funds go to the pantry and food baskets. If you take the local paper, you may have seen articles about this—we do get good publicity. More importantly, we support needy veterans and their families. This is akin to "leaving no man behind." It is the right thing to do and it is done well. And oh, by the way, I do get a full accounting of every penny spent and have to provide a report to MOAA National. It isn't overwhelming from an administrative standpoint. For about three hours of work a cycle, we have averaged \$4K per cycle. That is a pretty good hourly wage!!

SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER

Craig Smith, Surviving Spouse and Personal Affairs Chair

A reminder to all those interested in a Cruise sponsored by Surviving Spouse Nurses Virtual Chapter, and open to all members. It is scheduled for 26 September 2020--still plenty of time to plan and budget for. It will set sail out of Baltimore MD to Bermuda for 5 nights. I will send out another reminder as the time gets closer. As soon as a special website is set up I will let you know, that will provide all the info you need.

A new Senate Bill (S. 1047) is being introduced to increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for Surviving Spouses receiving pay from the VA. The proposal could net survivors an extra \$5,400 a year. DIC is a tax-free benefit paid to surviving spouses and dependent children when the service member dies of a service-connected cause. (This is different from HR 553 highlighted in past surviving spouse corner articles) The Senate Veterans Affairs Committee plans to work on the bill later in the year. So again, contacting your favorite Senator would help in passing this bill.

Finances are always a major concern for retirees and those surviving spouses who lose the major bread winner. Every month Lt Col Shane Ostrom, USAF Ret, CFP provides great financial information in MOAA magazine. He provides you with free advice on ways to reduce your tax burden. Even now we all can prepare for our loved ones with a few ways to provide more money in our later years. Take advantage of the information being provided by MOAA and its contributors to help us with our money matters. The article below is provided by Shane from the MOAA website:

The relationship between long-term care (LTC) and medical care covered by TRICARE, Medicare, or employer health care can be confusing.

Health insurance. Examples of health insurance include your health plan at work, TRICARE or TRICARE for Life, and Medicare. These cover medical bills related to the treatment of a sickness or injury. Health insurance pays for your doctors, hospitals, office visits, and medical procedures; aspects involving skilled medical personnel and facilities to treat your condition. After treatment, recuperation or recovery is not covered.

LTC insurance. It's about the need for assistance — when you can't perform normal activities of life and you need help to function. LTC is maintenance, not treatment. At this point, medical professionals have done all they can, and all that's left is recuperation or living with a disability that makes you require daily assistance. LTC insurance pays for assistance to come to your home or for you to stay in an assisted living or nursing facility. LTC pays when you need help with eating, toileting, dressing, bathing, transferring, continence, or cognitive impairments. Many people think of LTC as nursing home care. A better description would be stay-at-home care. More people use LTC for in-home care or assisted living than for nursing homes.

If you are VA-eligible and find you need LTC, check with your VA representative for VA LTC options. Be sure to check with your state VA office for LTC options; each state's coverage is unique.

And as always, any specific question can be addressed on Surviving Spouse issues by the following Chairpersons:

Gail Joyce
mssvc02@gmail.com
(214) 676-2132

Micki Costello
mssvc02@gmail.com
(214) 770-4140

ALAN KENT NEEDS HELP: DAV VAN DRIVERS NEEDED!!!

As many of you know, the DAV supplies the local VA Clinic with 2 vans to be used to drive disabled veterans to Bay Pines VA Hospital, Bradenton VA Clinic and Cape Coral VA Hospital. The hospital pays for fuel & maintenance. We need to supply the drivers. Currently we are down to FOUR drivers... with a commitment of 12 - 20 runs per month. We lost a half dozen snowbird drivers who went home. We have 3 or 4 out with illnesses and/or injuries.

We NEED YOUR HELP. We need about a half dozen more drivers to drive at least one day per month. Most of the current drivers are former enlisted folks... a few, like me, are officers. There is no shame being an officer who drives enlisted to their appointments! I have been doing this for 10 years and enjoy almost every trip I drive! I am thrilled to be able to help them.

These veterans we transport are, for the most part, those who cannot afford to own a car or are physically unable to drive the 220 mile round trip to St Petersburg. Give up a day each month to help them... and you'll enjoy all the "sea stories" that you hear on the van!

Please contact our Van Coordinator, Fred Norton, at the Sebring VA Clinic at 863-471-6227, ext 22697. Many thanks!!!

If you want to sign up for a range of updates from MOAA National, you can go to: http://moaa.highroadsolution.com/moaa_preference_page/EmailSearch.aspx and follow the prompts. It gives various options for the type of information desired, as well as the frequency you may wish to receive it. Don't miss out on this valuable resource!

Are you looking for a way to serve veterans in a very direct and meaningful way?

Well, here is your chance. The County Veteran Services Office, located right behind the Watering Hole restaurant is short staffed and needs help desperately. They need someone to answer phones, greet folks coming in, and generally serve as an all-around receptionist. There is no pay for this job, but there is reward—the reward of helping our veterans. If you want to volunteer, call Denise Williams or Carol West at 863-402-6623.

August Birthdays:
3—Lance Marine
14—Mackie Boone
15—Charlie Martin

Editor's Note: If your birthday is not recognized, it is because you did not include it on your application form. Please contact our Secretary, Mark Milia at 407-222-4867, and provide the same.

WHO CAN JOIN MOAA?

MOAA membership is open to all officers, commissioned or warrant, whether on active duty, retired, former, reserve or national guard of all the seven uniformed services, including the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Public Health Service.

Nametags: If you don't have and DO want a chapter nametag, please let us know. We need your info as you want it to appear on the tag: Name, Rank, Service. Spouse/significant other's name. The cost is \$10.00 each. Here is an example:



Chapter Calendar

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7 November 2019. Dinner/Social with spouses/better halves/significant others: 6:30 PM, Island View at Sun N' Lake, 5223 Sun N' Lake Blvd.

4 December 2019. Board Meeting: 1700 (5:00 PM) Business Meeting, 1830hrs (6:30 PM). Venue: Sea Services Museum, 1402 Roseland Ave., Sebring, FL

Would you like to buy a MOAA polo shirt or some other MOAA item? Go to the MOAA "Store," click on the following link: <http://www.tmgwebstores.com/moaa/default.html> You can also call them at 1-866-860-9293.

New Member: Bob Strathy

MOAA Legislative Goals for 2019:

- Ensure any TRICARE reform sustains access to top-quality care.
- Prevent disproportional TRICARE fee increases.
- Sustain military pay comparability with the private sector.
- Block erosion of compensation and non-pay quality of life benefits.
- End financial penalties for military survivors.
- End concurrent receipt penalties for military retirees.
- Achieve equity of benefits for Guard/Reserve members with their active duty counterparts.
- Strengthen DoD-VA collaboration and services to support wounded warriors and an expanding population of women veterans.
- Ensure timely access to service-earned VA benefits.
- Protect military and veteran family support programs and policies.

Take Action. MOAA Legislative Action Link:

<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/?tab=Legislative-Action-Center#Legislative-Action-Center>

PURPOSES OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a not-for-profit corporation that is operated exclusively to further the interests of the nation and its uniformed services personnel, their family members, and survivors.

From the preamble to the Bylaws of The Military Officers Association of America

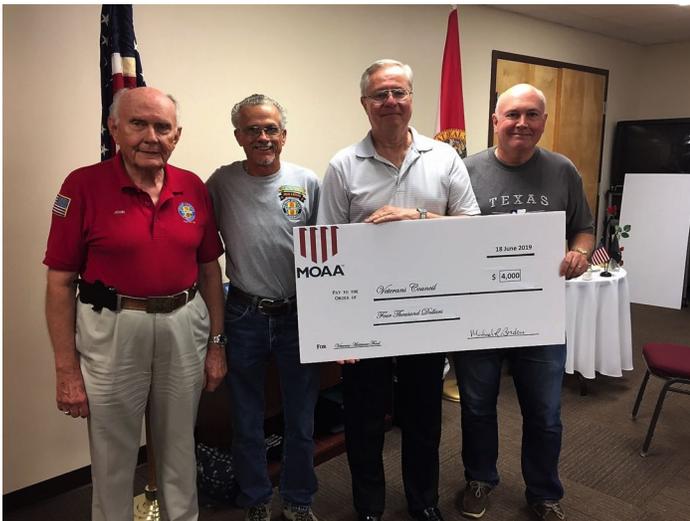
- To inculcate and stimulate love of country and flag;
- To defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States;
- To advocate military forces adequate to the defense of our country;
- To foster the integrity and prestige of uniformed service;
- To foster fraternal relations between all branches of the various Services from which our members are drawn;
- To further the education of children of Service personnel;
- To aid personnel of the Services from which our members are drawn, and their family members and survivors, in every proper and legitimate manner; and
- To present their rights and interests when Service matters are under consideration

We unite to form THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

TAKE ACTION!!

www.moaa.org

Chapter Members in Action



From left to right, chapter members John Harbaugh and Charlie Martin, Highlands County Veterans Council President Harry Marsh, and Mike Borders during the presentation of the \$4,000 grant to the Veterans Council



Marsha Mende won the ladies' door prize and Pat Tait looks on

Chapter Members in Action



Mike presents our July guest speaker Kris Juve with a MOAA coffee cup



Newlyweds Randy and Bonnie Smith



Polly Parks Cajjal receives the 5-star Communications award for her work and accomplishments as the editor of the Florida Council's *Communiqué* newsletter. Lt Gen Atkins makes the presentation.



Mike receives the 5-star Communications awards from Florida Council President Col, USAF (Ret) Len Friedlander (l) and MOAA National President and CEO, Lt Gen, USAF (Ret) Dana Atkins. Both the newsletter and website made 5-star.

USEFUL ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS AND WEB SITES

Air Force Retiree Services: (800) 531-7502;

www.retirees.af.mil

Arlington National Cemetery: (703) 607-8000;

www.arlingtoncemetery.org

Armed Forces Retirement Home: (800) 422-9988;

www.afrh.gov

AAFES: (214) 312-2011; www.aafes.com

Army Retired Services: (703) 571-7232; [https://](https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement)

soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement

Burial at Sea: (866) 787-0081; [http://www.public.navy.mil/](http://www.public.navy.mil/bupersnpc/support/casualty/mortuary/Pages/BurialAtSea.aspx)

[bupersnpc/support/casualty/mortuary/Pages/](http://www.public.navy.mil/bupersnpc/support/casualty/mortuary/Pages/BurialAtSea.aspx)

[BurialAtSea.aspx](http://www.public.navy.mil/bupersnpc/support/casualty/mortuary/Pages/BurialAtSea.aspx) Combat Related Special Compensation:

[http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/Pages/CRSCB/](http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/Pages/CRSCB/default.aspx)

[default.aspx](http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/Pages/CRSCB/default.aspx) DEERS: (800)-538-9552, Fax: (831) 655-8317;

www.tricare.osd.mil/deers

Defense Commissary Agency: www.commissaries.com

DFAS Casualty Assistance Branch: (800) 321-1080 or (216)

5225955; (For Reporting a Retiree's death, option #1)

I.D. Cards Benefits and Eligibility: (866) 827-5672; [https://](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/)

www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/

[site;jsessionid= liU5y-4sPqyCtImmgUJThnUWUeAanhbl5E](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/site;jsessionid=liU5y-4sPqyCtImmgUJThnUWUeAanhbl5EaGXQn4lh2pEEKpso!416826654?execution=e1s1)

[aGXQn4lh2pEEKpso!416826654?execution=e1s1](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/site;jsessionid=liU5y-4sPqyCtImmgUJThnUWUeAanhbl5EaGXQn4lh2pEEKpso!416826654?execution=e1s1)

Internal Revenue Service: (800) 829-1040; www.irs.gov

Marine Corps Retired Affairs: [https://](https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/webcenter/portal/MRAHome)

[www.manpower.usmc.mil/ webcenter/portal/MRAHome](https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/webcenter/portal/MRAHome)

(Hover over "Veteran Marines " then click on "Retired Services")

Medicare: (800) 633-4227. TTY: (877) 486-2048;

www.medicare.gov

Military Officers Assoc. of America: (800) 234-6622;

www.moaa.org

National Burial Services: (800) 697-6940

NPC Navy Reserve Personnel Management (PERS 9):

(866) 827-5672; [www.npc.navy.mil/career/](http://www.npc.navy.mil/career/reservepersonnelmgmt/Pages/default.aspx)

[reservepersonnelmgmt/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.npc.navy.mil/career/reservepersonnelmgmt/Pages/default.aspx)

Navy Casualty Assistance: (800) 368-3202

Navy Retired Activities Office: (866) U-ASK-NPC

(866-827-5672)

MILL RetiredActivities@navy.mil; [www.npc.navy.mil/support/](http://www.npc.navy.mil/support/retired_activities/Pages/default.aspx)

[retired_activities/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.npc.navy.mil/support/retired_activities/Pages/default.aspx)

Reserve Component SBP: (866) 827-5672 ask for PERS-912

Retiree Dental — Delta Dental: (888) 838-8737;

www.trdp.org

Servicemembers Group Insurance (SGLI): (800)

419-1473; www.insurance.va.gov

Social Security Administration: (800) 772-1213;

www.ssa.gov

Pay/SBP Questions: www.dfas.mil. Pay inquiries and update of pay or SBP records in case of death, divorce, or remarriage:

Retiree:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Retirement Pay

P.O. Box 7130 London KY 40742-7130

(800) 321-1080, (216) 522-5955

SBP/RSFPP annuitant:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Annuitant Pay

P.O. Box 7131 London KY 40742-7131

(800) 321-1080, (216) 522-5955

(800) 669-8477; www.insurance.va.gov

Burial information: (800) 827-1000; www.cem.va.gov

GI Bill: (888) 442-4551; www.gibill.va.gov

VA: www.va.gov **Regional offices:** (800) 827-1000

(overseas retirees should contact the American Embassy/consulate)

TDD (800) 89-4833

Insurance: A Regional Office and Insurance Center

PO Box 7208 (claims inquiries) -ORPO

Box 7327 (loans) -ORPO

Box 7787 (payments)

Philadelphia PA 19101

(800) 669-8477; www.insurance.va.gov

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