

February 2020



Indian River Chapter MOAA

P.O. Box 644047

Vero Beach, FL 32964-4047

***Indian River Chapter
Since 1983***

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Do you know someone who is a retired or former military officer or widowed spouse of an officer, but not a member of our chapter or MOAA? If so, ask them to join and contact **Carroll Oates** at 954-494-8742.

February 2020



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bob Albrecht

Last month our Vice Presidents, **Carroll Oates**, **Major Terry Treat**, and I attended the yearly Leadership Forum hosted by the Florida Council of Chapters, in Orlando.

It continues to amaze me on the size and scope of MOAA chapters in Florida! It's nearly impossible to put into words the incredible work our chapters are collectively performing in the name of those who have yet to serve, are serving, veterans, and family members! At the Leadership forum our chapter was recognized with the 5 Star Level of Excellence Award for 2018. This is a testament of the efforts of our members as we continue to serve in our community.

Both **Carroll Oates** and **Terry Treat** were awarded Florida Council of Chapter Leadership Awards at the event. My thanks goes out to Carroll and Terry for all the hard work they put in to our chapter's programs and the additional great things they accomplish through the Veterans Council of Indian River.

Bob Albrecht

President

NEVER STOP SERVING



TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Pat Ryan

1. Our thanks to all who got their dues in on time, and special thanks to those who used the online payment system! Remember that spouses who wish to have an auxiliary membership must create their own account online to make a dues payment. There is no process online to pay it in conjunction with the military member.
2. Please be sure and get me your meal choice for the monthly luncheon a week prior to the luncheon, especially if you are a couple of days late putting your check in the mail. We had numerous issues at the January luncheon due to folks who assumed we had gotten their late payment.
3. Donations to the scholarship fund, Honor Flight and veterans fund are gladly accepted and greatly appreciated!

Thanks!

Patty

BLUE ANGELS RETURNING TO VERO BEACH FOR 2020 AIR SHOW

Members of the Board of Directors of the Vero Beach Air Show are pleased to announce that the U.S. Navy Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Team will perform at the next Vero Beach Air Show scheduled at the Vero Beach Regional Airport April 25-26, 2020.

Our MOAA chapter is proud to be a sponsor of this event. We will also run a Beer Concession at the Air Show. Volunteers are needed to help us sling beers on both days of the event. If interested please contact **Bob Albrecht** at (919) 616 3873 or

ralbrecht1702@comcast.net. Details to follow!!

February 2020

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

By **Carroll Oates**

Bob Albrecht, Terry Treat, and Carroll Oates attended the MOAA Florida Chapter of Councils Leadership Convention in Orlando, Florida on January 10 and 11, 2020.

Our chapter received a Recognition Award and both Terry and Carroll received Leadership awards for 2019.

A reminder that the Florida Council of Chapters will hold its annual convention May 29-31 in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

Because of its close proximity to Indian River County, we are hopeful to get several members to attend this year. More detailed information will be forthcoming.

2nd Annual Stars and Stripes Spectacular Gala Sponsored by the Veterans Council of Indian River

Join us for Honors, Dinner, Dancing and a Silent Auction

Special Guest Speaker: Master Chief Rick Keiser, USN (ret.) SEAL

February 29, 2020

5:30pm – 10pm

Grand Harbor Country Club

4985 Club Terrace

Vero Beach, FL 32967

Formal Attire – Black Tie Optional

Our chapter will be reserving several tables for interested members. See **Carroll Oates** if you wish to join our table.

Click here for [2020 Gala Ticket Registration](#)

February 2020

**OUR SPEAKERS FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2020
A PANEL OF LOCAL ARMED SERVICES
RECRUITERS**

**Army * Navy * Air Force * Marines
Coast Guard**

Our Feb 21st luncheon speakers are a panel of local recruiters representing the five Armed Services. You will find this an impressive group of enlisted men and women.

Each will speak for a few minutes to outline what is going well in their recruiting efforts, what they wish to improve, what the greatest challenges are to finding qualified recruits, and what we at our MOAA chapter can do to help. We will follow with Qs and As.

This is a great opportunity to learn what is happening NOW in our Armed Forces. Sign up now for the luncheon and help show our support for the recruiters!



**THE CHAPTER NEEDS SOMEONE
HANDY WITH A CAMERA**

If you have some experience using a camera, you can assist **Mike Di Scipio** taking photos. Mike would appreciate your help.



INDIAN RIVER CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The Indian River Chapter Newsletter is published, except for June, July and August, by the Indian River Chapter FL36 of the **Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Inc., P.O. Box 644047, Vero Beach, Florida 32964-4047.** Web page www.ircmoaa.org.

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The chapter is non-partisan and the contents of the Indian River Chapter News are the opinions of the authors and are not necessarily those of the National MOAA, Florida Council of Chapters, the Indian River Chapter FL36, or the DOD.



February 2020

AN ARTICLE OF INTEREST

USS Hornet (CV-8) Greatest Legacy: the Doolittle Raid

By Kris Cotariu Harper, EdD

Late last month the remains of the USS Hornet (CV-8) were located on the floor of the South Pacific Ocean, more than 17,000 feet below sea level, in the vicinity of the Solomon Islands. While her active service was limited to just one year and six days, Hornet held a pivotal place in World War II history.



1942: USS Hornet (CV-8)

With Captain Marc Mitscher as the first commanding officer, Hornet was commissioned in Norfolk, Virginia on October 20, 1941. She was sunk at the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands on October 26, 1942. In one year and six days, Hornet participated in several significant battles in the South Pacific, ensuring an Allied victory over Japan.

At the Battle of Midway, June 4-6, 1942, Hornet was one of three American aircraft carriers who surprised the enemy and achieved the first major victory in that theater of the war. From August through October, Hornet helped capture and defend Guadalcanal. Hornet's final battle at Santa Cruz was a part of the defense of Guadalcanal and while the battle, itself, would most accurately be called a draw, Guadalcanal was successfully defended. Hornet, however, was mortally wounded and sank to the ocean floor.

Hornet's most significant contribution to the war effort, though, preceded this active combat. It was from the deck of the USS Hornet (CV-8) that the famed Doolittle raid was launched on the morning of April 18, 1942.

Four months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Doolittle raid was the first successful American strike against the Japanese home islands. The mission, how

ever, was not without its challenges. The B-25 was not designed to be a carrier-based aircraft and was thought to be too large to take off from a carrier flight deck; it was definitely too large to land on one.

Special training for the crews and mechanical alterations to the aircraft were required in addition to the identification of a land-based landing zone. Denied permission to land in eastern Russia, the United States negotiated with China and was granted landing rights provided the Chinese kept the sixteen aircraft.

The carrier group was discovered by Japanese forces 400 miles short of the planned take-off point. LTC Jimmy Doolittle made the daring decision to proceed with the mission early in spite of the fact that there was insufficient fuel to reach the landing zone after hitting targets in Tokyo.



April 18, 1942 "Army pilots. Man your planes."

The 16 aircraft reached Tokyo and released their bombs on their designated targets.

One plane developed mechanical problems and diverted to Russia, which was closer than China. The aircraft landed successfully, and despite the fact that Russia was our ally, the airplane was confiscated and the crew was interred.

The remaining 15 airplanes continued on course to the landing zone in China and, without exception, ran out of fuel and crashed; two ditched into the ocean and the remaining 13, on land. With no fuel or bombs on board, however, the airplanes did not explode and most of the men survived. Eight were captured by the Japanese, three of whom were executed, and three men drowned. **(Continued on next page.)**

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(Continued)

**USS Hornet (CV-8) Greatest Legacy:
the Doolittle Raid**

More than 60 men survived the mission and were helped back to American lines by Chinese civilians. These men, however, were not totally unscathed. Jimmy Doolittle broke his ankle; another crew member suffered a crushed leg which was amputated by his fellow crew members, using a first aid kit rescued from one of the downed aircraft.



The Doolittle raiders in China, aided by Chinese allies

LTC James Doolittle was awarded the Medal of Honor for "conspicuous leadership above the call of duty, involving personal valor and intrepidity at an extreme hazard to life...." He rose to the rank of Lieutenant General and died in 1993.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

By Jay Torres

"A chapter must be politically nonpartisan. However, a legislative committee can and should make a deliberate effort to inform its membership of candidates' positions."

Your Electronic 1099R is now available on MyPay (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>)

As indicated by its full name, "Form 1099-R, Distributions from Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc.," the 1099-R deals specifically with passive income and retirement plans. Anyone who receives a 1099-R must include the amount shown on it in their income tax return, and pay taxes accordingly. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) implemented the myPay web-based system in March 2000. MyPay delivers pay information and lets you process pay-related transactions timely, safely and securely. The web-based system protects against identity theft, and is faster and more secure than regular mail. The site allows members to access their electronic 1099R, and other financial information. If you do not have a password for accessing myPay, you can obtain one by clicking on the Forged or Need a Password? link on the myPay website (at the web address <https://mypay.dfas.mil>) to receive a temporary Password. If you have any questions concerning myPay, please call toll free at 1-888-DFAS411 or 1-888-332-7411, Commercial 216-522-5096, or DSN 580-5096, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. If you have any questions specifically regarding the information on your 1099R, please call 1-800-321-1080. This site gives complete details on the best methods to use. The website also offers a wealth of information designed to help retirees and annuitants understand and manage their accounts at <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html>.

**Now and Always
We'll be There.**



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February 2020

**FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS
ANNUAL CONVENTION
PALM BEACH GARDENS MARRIOTT
28-31 MAY 2020**

**By Colonel Paul Loschiavo, USMCR (Ret)
Chairman, MOAA FCOC Convention 2020**

GENERAL QUARTERS, GENERAL QUARTERS...
All hands man your battle stations!

We are going to *Palm Beach County* for the annual Florida Council of Chapters Convention!

We're staying at the just renovated **Palm Beach Gardens Marriott** and we're going to have some fun!

It starts with either a round of **golf at PGA National**, the home of the Honda Classic, or a **fishing trip out of Jupiter**. That night, we'll congregate for Officers Call at the **Square Grouper** in Jupiter. Do not wear a jacket and tie to the Square Grouper! It's spectacularly casual, located right on the Jupiter Inlet, across from the Lighthouse! With any luck, Jimmy Buffet will pass by. (Even if he doesn't, you'll feel like he did.)

The next day, you get to either try your hand at **kayaking on the Loxahatchee River** or climbing the **Jupiter Lighthouse**. If you go on the four-hour kayak trip, you will see some of *real* Florida.... not the sort of thing you see at Animal Kingdom at Disney, but r-e-a-l Florida. With any luck, you'll see manatees and turtles, and a bunch of birds in the wild. And, yes... maybe even an *alligator*.

If you climb the Jupiter Lighthouse, you'll climb a lighthouse that was built during the Civil War. (Yup... there's no air conditioning, and you need to be able to climb about 120 steps.) You'll get a bird's eye view of some of the most expensive real estate on the planet.

The second night, we'll be sponsoring a "**Dine Around**." We've made reservations at eight excellent restaurants, all within five minutes of the hotel. We hope you go with people you *don't know*. The idea is to have a great time, while meeting fellow officers from around the state. (See the activities sheet for a description of the restaurants.)

On Saturday, **Lieutenant General Atkins**, the President of MOAA National, will speak at the breakfast about what's going on in DC. Later that day, we have a very prominent jeweler who will be talking about... **classy jewelry**, and the First Sergeant of the Rangers during the mission now known as **Black Hawk Down** will describe his experiences in Somalia.

Saturday night, **Congressman Mike Waltz**, who is a retired Army Officer and member of the House Armed Services Committee, will give us the inside scoop on what's happening on Capitol Hill. He's also a member of MOAA and is a member of the Canaveral Chapter?

And... we'll top off the ball with **Neil Zirconia**, who does Neil Diamond better than Neil Diamond. I should mention that a couple dozen members of the Palm Beach - Martin Counties chapter saw Neil Zirconia a few months ago, and had a *great* time.

I do need to issue a warning.... the hotel is three or four minutes from **The Gardens Mall**. You had better make sure that you've paid off any balance on your credit card before going there. For those inclined to go shopping, this is like walking up to the plate in Yankee Stadium with the Red Sox on the field and a hundred thousand people watching. I am also required to mention that MOAA is *not responsible* for the destruction of any credit cards.

The intent of the convention is to have some fun. 'Hope you'll join us! **Thursday-Friday-Saturday-Sunday, 28-31 May 2020. The weekend after Memorial Day.**

**Colonel Paul Loschiavo USMCR (Ret)
Chairman, MOAA FCOC Convention 2020**



Save the Date!

Florida Council of Chapters Annual Convention 2020

29-30-31 May 2020

Host Chapter: Palm Beach – Martin Counties Chapter

Location: just refurbished Palm Beach Gardens Marriott

Engaging speakers, military ball, cocktail party

Also:

Climb the Jupiter Lighthouse

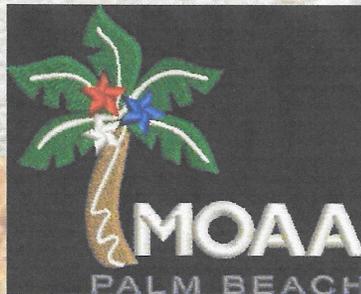
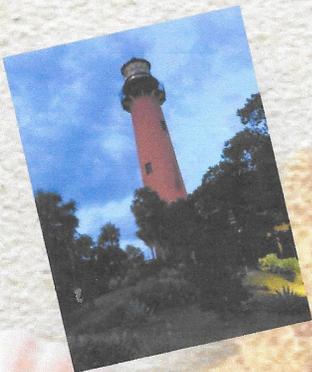
Kayak on the Loxahatchee River

Fishing in the Atlantic

Gorgeous beaches

Five-star shopping at the Gardens Mall*

Golf Tournament



You just might have to come early or leave late to get it all in!

***MOAA is not responsible for the destruction of any credit cards at the Gardens Mall...**