



# Officers Call

Chapter FL 41

One Nation Under God

Feb 2024

## OFFICERS

### President

COL Peggy Hengeveld, USA  
717-645-8586

### 1st Vice President

LTC Mike Connors, USA  
386-445-1315

### 2nd Vice President

COL Cecil Hengeveld, USA  
717-525-4786

### Secretary

Vacant

### Treasurer

Karla A. Key, CPA  
305-803-4000

## DIRECTORS

LTC David Hammond, USA  
CW2 Richard Oexmann, USA  
LTC George Weaver, USA  
CPT Al Ricci, USAF

## STAFF

### Chaplain

LTC Harry Gilman, USA  
386-439-4222

### Legislative Affairs

Lt Col David Lydon, USAF  
386-315-4628

### Sunshine

Ms. Glenn Wood  
386-446-9788

### Auxiliary (New Beginnings)

Carolyn Sinatra  
389-455-9202

### County Veterans Services

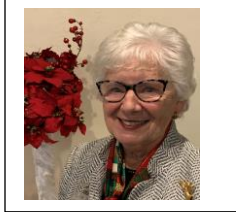
Lt Col David Lydon, CVSO  
386-313-4014

### Newsletter Editor

CDR Daniel Maxwell, USN  
304-238-4194

### Webmaster &

Membership Chairman  
Lt Col David Lydon, USAF



## President's Message

February is recognized for Black History Month, Valentine's Day and depending on where you are, being very cold! February was named for the Roman word "februum," which means purification.

It was one of the last months to be added to the Roman calendar because they didn't have months in wintertime. We all know that February is the shortest month, but at one time, it was only 23 days long! That would make the rhyme a bit more complicated. The 29th day occurs only every 4 years during leap years such as 2024. In 713 B.C., February was officially added to the Roman calendar, but the length of February was finalized when Julius Caesar remade the Roman calendar and assigned the month 28 or 29 days. In Welsh, February is sometimes known as "y mis bach," which means "little month."

Of all the words you can misspell, February is one of the most misspelled words in the English language. Even the White House has misprinted the word "February" before in a press release! February is the only month where it's possible to go the entire month without having a full moon. This month is also about purification. It's a month to prepare for spring bringing the promise of longer days in the Northern hemisphere. I wish a warmer month for all of you.

**Another bit of great news is that our New Beginnings group, led by Carolyn Sinatra, will begin meeting again at the Olive Garden on 2/12/2024 at noon. Please support Carolyn with your attendance in re-starting this worthwhile activity.**

## February 2, 1962 - The first U.S. Air Force plane is lost in South Vietnam.



The C-123 aircraft crashed while spraying defoliant on a Viet Cong ambush site. The aircraft was part of Operation Ranch Hand, a technological area-denial technique designed to expose the roads and trails used by the Viet Cong. U.S. personnel dumped an estimated 19 million gallons of defoliating herbicides over 10-20 percent of Vietnam and parts of Laos from 1962 to 1971. Agent Orange—so named from the color of its metal containers—was the most frequently used. The operation succeeded in killing vegetation but not in stopping the Viet Cong. (Continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

The use of these agents was controversial, both during and after the war, because of questions about long-term ecological impacts and the effect on humans who handled or were sprayed by the chemicals. Beginning in the late 1970s, Vietnam veterans began to cite the herbicides, especially Agent Orange, as the cause of health problems ranging from skin rashes to cancer and birth defects in their children. Similar problems, including an abnormally high incidence of miscarriages and congenital malformations, have been reported among the Vietnamese people who lived in the areas where the defoliate agents were used. (Source:Thisdayinushmilhist.wordpress.com)



### February Program/Speaker Blair Craig

Blair is retired from the U.S. Army with over 20 years of service as an Airborne / Ranger / and Foreign Area Officer, with 2 tours in Vietnam doing special directed missions.

He retired from active duty in 1988, and following retirement from the military he worked as a consultant and contractor at Headquarters Pacific Command, Hawaii, as the Senior Disaster Contingency Planner for the 43 nations in the Pacific Theatre.

In 2006, he and his wife, Leslie, and I moved to St. Augustine, and he began work for the Florida National Guard (FLNG) as their Operations Plans Officer - J35 / 5. In that capacity he wrote/edited a new Contingency Operations Plan to guide the future mobilization and deployment of the FLNG, for which he was awarded the Florida Commendation Medal by the Governor of Florida.

Blair is now semi-retired, but very active in Veterans affairs and programs such as Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Veterans Treatment Court, and member of Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Officers Association of America, and the Disabled Veterans of America. As Adjunct Professor at Chaminade University for seven years he taught courses in History and Political Science. He has been a guest speaker in China, Singapore, Korea, Australia, and Hawaii. Since 2010, by invitation of the St. Johns County School Board, he have been presenting "Veterans in the Classroom" to High School classes 3 times each year on the following topics; "Support and Defend Our Constitution", "Veterans Day", and "Valor". He has been guest speaker to the Incarcerated Veterans at the Union County Corrections Institution, Raiford, Florida, and to the Florida National Guard, and is preparing an upcoming presentation to the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**Feb1, 1862 – "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" was first published in "Atlantic Monthly" as an anonymous poem.** The lyric was the work of Julia Ward Howe and was based on chapter 63 of the Old Testament's Book of Isaiah. "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" soon became the most popular Union marching song of the Civil War and is still being sung and to the tune of a song titled, "John Brown's Body." Julia Ward Howe (b.1819-1908) was an influential social reformer and wife of fellow reformer and educator Samuel Gridley Howe. She was prominent in the anti-slavery movement, woman's suffrage, prison reform and the international peace movements. Julia Ward Howe was the first woman elected to the American Academy of Fine Arts and Letters in 1908. Ralph Waldo Emerson, said: "I honor the author of 'The Battle Hymn' ... she was born in the city of New York. I could well wish she were a native of Massachusetts. We have no such poetess in New England."

(Source:Thisdayinushmilhist.wordpress.com)

**Flagler County Chapter, FL 41 News/Activities**



**Now Hear This**



- Remember that all our monthly meetings, for at least, the first half of the year will be luncheons at Halifax. We are hoping to resume dinner meetings after our summer hiatus.
- Don't forget that 2024 local dues of \$25 was due on 1/1/2024.
- We are still seeking a volunteer for the position of Secretary. Please contact Peggy or any staff member if you are interested.
- Future speakers
  - March - LaShakia Moore, Superintendent Flagler County Schools
  - April - To Be Determined
  - May - Cecil Hengeveld
  - Save the Date - May 9, 2024 St Johns River Cruise

**General Meeting Reservation  
February 22,2024  
Halifax Golf Club**

Social Time—11:30 AM      Luncheon & Meeting— 12:00 Noon      Program - Blair Craig

Name \_\_\_\_\_


	Meal Charge	Meals Requested	Meal Total
Baked shrimp stuffed with crab meat	\$29.00	_____	\$ _____
Chicken with mushrooms in wine sauce	\$29.00	_____	\$ _____
Supporting Donations (Circle one): Toys for Tots/ Feed Flagler/ JROTC Academic Achievement Award/ Other (please designate) _____			Donation Total \$ _____
(Suggested donation—\$10 min)			
2024 Dues (if not yet paid)			Dues \$ _____
			<b>Grand Total \$ _____</b>

**(IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND MEETING, PLEASE USE THIS FORM TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAUSES THAT WE SUPPORT OR TO PAY YOUR DUES. WE NEED EVERYONE'S HELP TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. MARK "NO MEAL," CIRCLE FUND, AND INDICATE AMOUNT. Remember that we are collecting Food Panty donations in the bin at the registration table.**

Mail Check to: MOAA, P.O. Box 352495, Palm Coast, FL 32135-2495

**Please ensure that checks and reservations are received by Wednesday, Feb 14th, 2024. Thank you.**

## Dates to Remember

<p><b><u>Board Meetings</u></b>                  County Admin Bldg.                  Feb 1st 3:30 PM                   Mar 7<sup>th</sup> 3:30 PM</p>	<p><b><u>General Membership Meetings</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Dinner Meetings</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Later in 2024</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Luncheon Meetings</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Halifax Golf Club</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>                  Mar 28<sup>th</sup></p>	<p><b><u>Feb Birthdays</u></b></p> <p>3 Dale Bell                  6 Randy Stapleford                  7 Jim McClanahan                  16 James McMahan                  20 Neal McCoppin                  26 John Morris</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feb Anniversaries</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">21 Randy and Rhonda Stapleford</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Remember the Food Pantry</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cash donations accepted in basket at Registration Table</p>
---	---	---	--

**Feb Observances**

February is Black History Month

2 Ground Hog Day

3 Four Chaplain's Day

4 USO Birthday

14 Valentine's Day

14 Ash Wednesday

19 President's Day

19 Coast Guard Reserve Birthday

23 Flag Raised over Iwo Jima (1945)



**Flagler County Chapter**  
**Military Officers Association of America**  
  
**P.O. Box 352495**  
  
**Palm Coast, FL 32135-2495**

**NEVER STOP SERVING**