



DRUMBEAT

April, 2024



President's Message for April

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Board Meeting	Apr 17, 2024
Lunch Meeting	Apr 24, 2024
Board Meeting	May 15, 2024
Lunch Meeting	May 22, 2024
Board Meeting	Jun 19, 2024
Lunch Meeting	N/A
Board Meeting	Jul 17, 2024
Lunch Meeting	N/A

Greetings and welcome to April, the month of Spring Showers and lots of color. We had a great March luncheon and Mike Mattia did an outstanding job on his presentation of CPT Ben Sullivan, the only Army Dentist to have been awarded the Medal of Honor. If you miss our monthly luncheons you are missing out on some of the best speakers in the area. Make plans to attend as we go through a great deal of effort to ensure we get top quality speakers on a wide range of historical topics of interest to our members.

Our speaker for April is a **mystery** speaker, who will be announced at the time of presentation. The topic will be on Ransom E. Olds, the inventor of Oldsmobile and founder of the city of Oldsmar. Additionally be sure to remind me to tell the funny story I promised you at the March luncheon!

As a reminder, our annual JROTC Golf Tournament fund-raiser is scheduled for Saturday May 18, 2024, at the Clearwater Country Club. For those of you who want to participate the sign-up is in this edition of the newsletter, and if you want to make a financial contribution those instructions are included also.

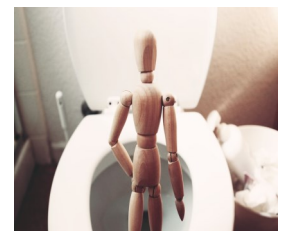
Lastly, we still have a few members who have not paid our chapter dues for 2024. If you have not taken care of this important task and consider doing so, and we all thank you for your prompt action. **Mail your checks to Jane Belson at 1824 Northwood Dr, Clearwater, FL 33764-2462.** Dues are \$20 per year and \$15 for spouse members.

I hope to see you all at the luncheon.
 Together we are "One Powerful Voice", Still Serving! Hooah!

Jeff Doll

Words of Wisdom on success from our Secretary Al Davidson:

- At age 4 success is . . . Not piddling in your pants.
- At age 12 success is . . . Having friends.
- At age 17 success is . . . Having a driver's license.
- At age 35 success is . . . Having money.
- At age 50 success is . . . Having money.
- At age 70 success is . . . Having a driver's license.
- At age 75 success is . . . Having friends.
- At age 80 success is . . . Not piddling in your pants.



Contents of our latest Newsletter.

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Clearwater Chapter Membership

Total Members	63
Regular	38
Spouses	17
Surviving Spouses	8

The Drumbeat is published by the Clearwater Chapter which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan. The advertisements that appear in this publication also do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA.

Join Clearwater Chapter MOAA - Click on: [Application](#)
Contact your Senators and Representative — Click on: [Take Action](#)

Chapter News



Past Chapter President Bob Behm donating a check for \$1000 from the Largo Elks Veterans Committee to Edgardo Solivan the Veterans Service Officer to be used for the April 6th Homeless Veterans Standdown at Bay Pines VA center.



Past Chapter President Bob Behm presenting WWII Veteran Hector Hita with a Shadow Box to house the Flag that was presented to him while he was in Washington at the WWII Memorial.



Chapter member Dave Mason working at a Veterans Clothing Drive at the Largo Elks where \$4272 dollars worth of clothing was collected and donated to the Veterans Mall in Clearwater.



Chapter member Sandy Behm working at a Veterans Clothing Drive at the Largo Elks where \$4272 dollars worth of clothing was collected and donated to the Veterans Mall in Clearwater.



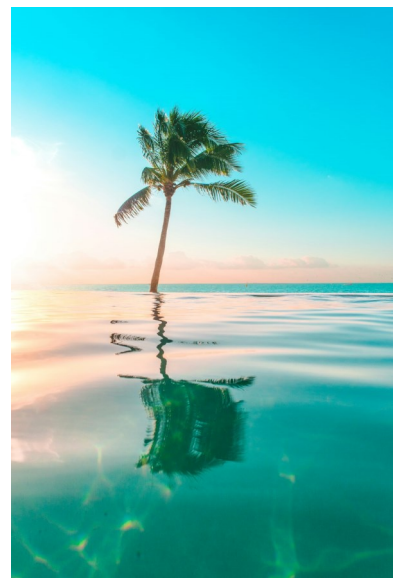
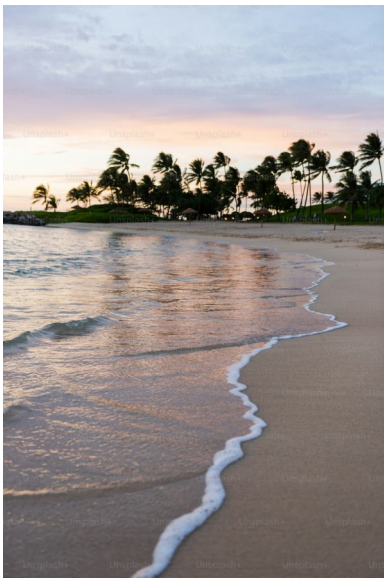
COL(Ret) Mike Mattia discusses the saga of CPT Ben Sullivan the only Army Dentist to have earned the Medal of Honor.



Chapter President Jeff Doll presents Mike Mattia with a certificate of appreciation for his key note address to the members.



The dynamic trio who ensure each meeting is run to perfection. Left Sandy Behm, Center Jane Belson right Pat Hughes.



The sunshine-state and it's majestic beauty on full display.

MOAA Clearwater Chapter's Luncheon Notice

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MOAA's next luncheon will be taking place at the Clearwater Country Club on Wednesday April 24, 2024.

Join us for lunch at the Clearwater Country Club, 525 N. Betty Lane, Clearwater. Directions: Going north from Drew Street it'll be the last right turn before the railroad tracks. From Palmetto Street heading south it'll be the first left after the tracks. CCC phone: 727-446-9501. Luncheon check-in starts at 11:15, Program at Noon. If reservation is not made online, then call Jane Belson at 727-535-9151 – NLT than 12:00 Friday, April 19, 2024. Cancellations must be in NLT 12:00 Monday, April 22, 2024. Please have \$22.00 meal checks ready before arrival.

The Menu for the April Luncheon is as follows:

Hot House salad with Italian Dressing, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Garlic toast, Chef's choice of Dessert.

Cold: Soup Du Jour, Cobb Salad (Chopped mixed greens topped with turkey, bacon, tomato, egg, Bleu cheese and avocado, Served with homemade ranch dressing) Chef's Choice of Dessert.

Meals will include rolls & butter.

Beverage station will be available throughout the meal.



6th

Annual Golf Tournament Sponsored by:

Clearwater Chapters of the Military Order of the World Wars, Military Officers Association of America and the Pinellas County Schools JROTC Units

GOLF TOURNAMENT

4-Person Scramble Format: Registration Starts on SATURDAY MAY 18, 2024 8:00 AM Shotgun Start \$85 Per Golfer

\$20 "HONOR PACKAGE"

(1 Mulligan, 1 Raffle Ticket, Putting Contest, Longest Drive, closest to the Pin Contest)

WIN PRIZES!

- 1st & 2nd Place Winning Teams
- Longest Drive (Men & Women)
- Longest "Senior Drive" (Men & Woman)
- Closest to Pin (Men & Women)
- Hole In One Contest
- Raffle Prizes (6 additional tickets \$5)
- Player "Goodie Bag", includes (1) free raffle ticket for prize drawings!

Tournament Proceeds Benefit:
 Boca Ciega High School Army JROTC
 Clearwater High School Marines JROTC
 Dunedin High School Navy JROTC
 Gibbs High School Army JROTC
 Hollins High School Army JROTC
 Northeast High School Army JROTC
 Pinellas Park High School Coast Guard JROTC
 St. Petersburg High School Air Force JROTC
 Military Order of the World Wars, MOWW
 Military Officers Association of America, MOAA

Cut & return golf registration/sponsorship form to the address below

GOLF REGISTRATION & EVENT SPONSORSHIP FORM

Player Name(s)	Cell Phone	Email Address
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

\$_____ SPONSORSHIP \$_____ PLAYERS @ \$85 pp \$_____ TOTAL

Make check payable and mail to: MOWW Clearwater Chapter, ICO: LTC Steve Hodges USA (Ret), 4556 Great Lakes Dr. So, Clearwater, Fl. 33762. For additional information call: Steve Hodges @ (727) 709-2612, Email: shodges41@gmail.com

EIN # 23-7368566, 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization



HEROES SPONSOR - \$1,000

Foursome + 4 “Honor” packages, company name on golf carts, Hole sign & Sponsor recognition at lunch/awards ceremony

FREEDOM SPONSOR - \$500

Foursome + 4 “Honor” packages, Hole Sign recognition

MEDALIST SPONSOR - \$400

Foursome + Hole Sign recognition

\$200 Longest Drive Sponsor

\$200 Closest to the Pin Sponsor

\$200 Putting Contest Sponsor

\$100 Hole Sign Sponsor

(or) Make a donation to enhance citizenship through JROTC Check payable to: MOWW CLEARWATER CHAPTER

501(c)3 Veterans Organization EIN 23-7368566

PLEASE CHECK BELOW YOUR LEVEL OF EVENT SPONSORSHIP

- _____ **HEROES SPONSOR - \$1,000 (Name) _____**
- _____ **FREEDOM SPONSOR - \$500 (Name) _____**
- _____ **LONGEST DRIVE SPONSOR - \$200 (Name) _____**
- _____ **CLOSEST TO THE PIN - \$200 (Name) _____**
- _____ **HOLE SIGN SPONSOR - \$100 (Attach sign information) _____**
- _____ **\$20 “HONOR” PACKAGE _____ # of packages**
- _____ **A DONATION - \$ _____**



The City of Port St. Lucie invites you to the

Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial of Florida

Monument Dedication Ceremony



*In honor of Floridians
who served in our nation's wars in Iraq and
Afghanistan,
and those who made the ultimate sacrifice.*

Saturday, April 20, 2024 • 12 p.m.

Veterans Memorial Park

**2100 SE Vetrans Memorial
Parkway Port St. Lucie, FL**



RSVP to Councilman Pickett or Christina at 772-871-5159 or email cflores@cityofpsl.com

What Does the Largest VA Budget Request Ever REALLY Mean for Veterans?



The [largest VA budget request ever](#) – \$369 billion for FY 2025, 10% higher than the FY 2024 estimate – came March 11, five weeks after the often-neglected deadline for the White House to submit its annual budget proposal. [Click here to Read article](#)

Want to Save With Space-A? Get Travel Advice From an Expert



Americans are [prioritizing travel this year](#), and with travel costs on the rise, many retirees and active duty servicemembers are looking to use one of their earned benefits, Space-Available (Space-A) travel, to get to their destination for less. [Click here to read article](#)

Our Patriotic Advertisers

SALUTING OUR FINE PATRIOTIC ADVERTISERS—You are encouraged to patronize our patriotic advertisers and be sure to mention you are a MOAA member. Please bring a copy of the advertisement and show it to the manager.

Also, encourage your friends and family to patronize them and let management know that their support of MOAA is appreciated. Please note ALL links (advertisers with links in color and others) are “Hot” and will take you to the site.



Clearwater Perkins Restaurant welcomes you to come and enjoy a meal, open 24-7. Perkins Restaurant is located at 2626 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd, Clearwater, FL-PH-727-799-2019. Stop by for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Wine and beer available upon request



<https://stores.perkinsrestaurants.com/us/fl/clearwater/2626-gulf-to-bay-blvd.html>



Former, Active, Retired Military Officers, Warrant Officers & Surviving Spouses

JOIN A FLORIDA CHAPTER

- Advocacy from the National to the State and Local levels
 - Philanthropy and Community Service
 - Comradery with a Purpose

NEVER STOP SERVING

Find a chapter at www.MOAAFL.org/Membership.aspx

MOAA Chapters: Where the rubber meets the road!

As Military Officers, our shared experience of service forms a bond like no other. And while MOAA is based in Washington, D.C., the heart and soul of our organization lies in local communities served by local chapters. where members pledge to “Never Stop Serving”.

MOAA chapters unite active duty, former, and retired officers and warrant officers from every branch of service, including the National Guard and Reserve, as well as their spouses. Membership in a chapter provides an opportunity to connect with fellow officers, networking, grassroots advocacy, community service, philanthropy, and much more.

Connect with other, like minded officers committed to keeping our military strong and ensuring promises made to veterans are kept. There are 39 MOAA Chapters in Florida. Join a Florida MOAA Chapter now by visiting our website at: www.MOAAFL.org/Membership.aspx



MOAA[®]

Military Officers Association of America

ONE POWERFUL VOICE

www.clearwatermoaa.org

Clearwater Chapter MOAA
3 Villa Ct
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

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