

THE SARASOTA BREEZE



THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF SARASOTA, INC

An Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America MOAA and The Florida Council of Chapters

Best Newsletter 2000-2004, 2007/2010; Runner Up 2008/2009, 2012-2014; Newsletter 5 Star 2015/2017-2023; 4 Star 2016; Website 5-Star 2015-2023
Vol. XXXVI No. 2 MOAA 4-Star Chapter 2003/2008/2019; MOAA 5 Star Chapter 2004-2007, 2009-2018, 2020-2023 February 2025

JANUARY 2025 PROGRAM - State College of Florida Presidential String Quartet

The State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota (SCF-M/S) Presidential String Quartet presented a delightful concert for our luncheon. The four members of the quartet were Sameer Hamid – 1st Violin; Rachel DeMoranville – 2nd Violin; Jacob Rodriguez – Viola; and Albert Molina-Sierra – Cello; They first played the Mozart String Quartet #13, then the Rondo from the 15th Quartet, also by Mozart. Three of the quartet members are in their second year and will be going on to a 4-year college next fall. The cellist, in his first year, has time to decide on his future education choices.



The State College of Florida – Manatee-Sarasota (SCF-M/S) is a center for music education and cultural highlight in our community. It is the only music transfer program in the Manatee and Sarasota region, providing a complete 2-year program for music majors, preparing them to pursue a degree at a 4-year university.

The Presidential String Quartet is the school's premier chamber music ensemble. The students are selected through a rigorous audition process and are rewarded with a scholarship for their participation.

It was a joy to hear these young musicians at the start of their careers.

FEBRUARY 2025 PROGRAM - NOAA Hurricane Hunters - Aviation Operations

Our February Luncheon Program and Guest Speaker will be from Hurricane Hunter Aircraft Operations Center, Lakeland, FL. This should be a most informative and important presentation especially considering the recent death and destruction caused by Hurricanes Debby, Helene and Milton.

The NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO), part of the US Dept of Commerce, manages and operates NOAA's fleet of 15 research & survey ships and 10 specialized environmental data-collecting aircraft, and is comprised of civilians and officers of the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps. OMAO also manages the NOAA Diving Program, Small Boat Program, and Uncrewed Systems Operations Center.

The research and survey ships comprise one of the largest fleets of federal research ships in the nation. Ranging from large oceanographic research vessels capable of exploring the world's deepest ocean, to smaller ships that chart the shallow bays and inlets of the United States, the fleet supports a wide range of marine activities including fisheries surveys, nautical charting and ocean and climate studies.

NOAA aircraft, carrying scientists and specialized instrument packages to conduct research for NOAA's missions, operate throughout the world, providing a wide range of capabilities including hurricane reconnaissance & research, marine mammal and fisheries assessment, and coastal mapping.

Additionally, OMAO ships and aircraft provide immediate response capabilities for unpredictable events. Following hurricanes, NOAA ships conduct emergency surveys for navigation hazards that help ports reopen quickly. Aerial images of disaster-torn areas—taken by NOAA aircraft—enabled residents and emergency workers to verify the condition of houses, bridges and roads.

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Military Officers Association of Sarasota (MOAS) Mission Statement

MOAS, a non-profit 501c(19) organization, exists to improve the awareness, life style, and overall environment of its members; support and serve the citizens of the Sarasota area; influence the political process in matters pertaining to active duty, retired and former military personnel; and enhance the image of America's uniformed services in our local community.

Chapter Officers, Directors and Committees

President	David Downer
1st Vice President	Steven L. Carnes
2nd Vice President	Ron Wozniak
Treasurer	Christa I. Friedlander
Secretary & Historian	Peter Dering
Director (Scholarships)	William F. Lawyer
Director (Communications)	Vacant
Director (Legislative)	Michael Lindquist
Director (Membership)	Len Friedlander
Immediate Past President	Jonathan C. Gordon
Legislative Committee	Michael Lindquist
Vets Affairs/Commission	Vacant
Marketing & Communications Committee	
Chairperson	Vacant
Editor-Newsletter	Len Friedlander
Web Site	Craig Hullinger
BLOG/Social Media/Photo	Craig Hullinger
Membership Committee	
Recruiting & Retention	Len Friedlander
Recruiting & Retention	William F. Lawyer
Reporting & Records	Christa I. Friedlander
Personal Affairs Committee	
Surviving Spouses Liaison	Peggy Mock
Chaplain	Michael Lindquist
Programs Committee	
Chairperson	Ron Wozniak
Luncheon Programs	Chris Nind
Luncheon Programs	Karen Olson
Young at Heart [YAHOO]	Ron Wozniak
YAHOO Coordinator	Linda Wozniak
Meet & Greet	Peggy O'Connell
Luncheon Committee	
Chairperson & Coordinator	Peggy O'Connell
Greeter	Peter Dering
Greeter	
50-50 Manager	Mary Gordon
Scholarship Committee	
Chairperson	William F. Lawyer
Member	Len Friedlander
Member	Mary Gordon
Member	Linda Wozniak
Member	William F. Lawyer
JROTC Liaison	William F. Lawyer
Support Our Troops [SOT]	Ron Wozniak
Awards Board Chair	Jonathan C. Gordon

Editorial Policy: "The Breeze" newsletter is published by the Military Officers Association of Sarasota, Inc., an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and the Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC). MOAA and its affiliated chapters & councils are non-partisan."



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE David Downer

Although I mentioned it last month, I want to remind everyone that as this organization ages, we lose members. While this is normal and expected, please remember that every member is important to our organization and every member also has a responsibility to recruit new members, including spouses of military members (or non-members!) who have passed on. We exist to support everyone who qualifies for membership. Keep your eyes open for opportunities!

Since Craig Hullinger left & returned north, we could use someone good with a camera to take photos at our luncheons for publication in the Breeze. We need someone to fill the "Communications" position on the board! There are other talents we could use, so don't hesitate to let me or another board member know of your abilities and interests.

Again, repeating myself a bit, I want to thank Ron Wozniak for setting up our visit to the Military Heritage Museum in Punta Gorda on December 7th. Most of us gathered afterward for lunch at "The Captain's Table" out at the very end of the Fishermen's Village. It was a great time.

While there are many good things about Michael's on East, we're interested in looking for another lunchtime venue that would be reasonably priced, located where everyone can get to it easily and willing to provide a decent lunch menu. If you know of such a place, please let us know.

Our Florida Council of Chapters Southwest Area Vice President, Colonel Gary Nolan, attended our luncheon meeting on January 16th and installed our officers and other board members. Remember that the Breeze always includes the sign-up information for the next luncheon (see the back page).

I hope that you had a Happy New Year and that 2025 will be a great year for you!





SECRETARY'S CORNER

Peter Dering

Military Officers Association of Sarasota, Inc (MOAS) Sarasota Military Officers Foundation, Inc (SMOF)

The board meeting for the above organizations was held Monday January 6, 2025 at the Meadows Lifestyle and Wellness Facility 3350 Longmeadow. Issues of significance are addressed below. NOTE: The complete minutes and financial reports will be on the MOAS website www.sarasotamoaa.com following approval of the Board of Directors. The information below should be considered unofficial as the meeting minutes are not yet board approved.

CALL TO ORDER: President Dave Downer called the meeting to order at 1400 and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Downer (Pres), Steve Carnes (1VP)(via telecon), Ron Wozniak (2VP), Peter Dering (Sec'y), Christa Friedlander (Treas), Bill Lawyer (Dir), Michael Lindquist (Dir) & Jon Gordon (IPP)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Len Friedlander (Dir)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & VISITORS PRESENT: Peggy O'Connell, Linda Wozniak, & Karen Olson

PRESIDENT'S ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- I will be going to the FCOC Leadership Training Conference this month.
- Luncheons are going well.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: (Steve Carnes) I will assist Dave in preparing our LOE submission.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: (Ron Wozniak) Nothing to Report.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:(Jon Gordon) The LOE submission deadline is due February 15. Earlier than previous years.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: (Peter Dering) The December 2024 BOD Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Christa Friedlander) The December 2024 Treasurer's Reports was approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGISLATIVE: (Mike Lindquist) Nothing to Report

PROGRAMS: (Chris Nind) January: State College of Florida Presidential Quartet; February: NOAA

BREEZE NEWSLETTER: (Len Friedlander) January Breeze was emailed to 240 recipients and mailed (USPS) to 32 members.

MEMBERSHIP: (Len Friedlander)

Membership Renewal Status a/o Dec 30, 2024

Renewed – 152, Resigned – 3, No Response – 55

Sent Reminder email on Dec 27 to 66 non-responders

SOCIAL MARKETING, COMMUNICATION AND WEBSITE:
No Report

LUNCHEON REPORT: (Mary Gordon/Peggy O'Connell):

- Unfortunately, our Military Gala scheduled for Sunday, Dec 8, 2024, had to be cancelled. Our contract with Michael's on East was for a minimum of 50; however, they would have allowed us to have the event with 35. We did not reach that number and in the end had several cancellations from our number of 31. I notified Michael's of our decision at the last board meeting to cancel and there was no

compensation due. Bill Lawyer notified the ROTC Color Guard, David Downer notified Gary Nolan, our area VP, and Christa Friedlander called the Lacey Jane Band. We did have to pay for the band since we cancelled less than a week before the event. I notified all the people who had made reservations to let them know of the change and to have them tell me if they wanted their checks returned or shredded.

- MOAS in the coming year may want to rethink the idea of an evening formal event and plan a lovely holiday luncheon instead; many of our older and/or single members may appreciate that change.

- Peggy O'Connell will be the new luncheon coordinator starting in January 2025. There has been some discussion about finding a new venue for our monthly luncheons and several people are looking into possibilities; if we change from Michael's it will need to be a convenient location with ample parking that offers a good price for a nice luncheon.

MEET & GREET: (Peggy O'Connell) The January Meet & Greet will be Wednesday January 22 at Mattison's on 41 at 5:30pm.

JROTC, MCJROTC: (Bill Lawyer)

- The Sarasota High School award ceremony is scheduled for 23 April 2025 at 3:30 PM. I plan to attend, and Art Hillman will be helping again this year. None of the other schools have identified their awards ceremony schedule.

YAHOO: (Ron & Linda Wozniak) For info on cancellations, venue, date & time changes, go to the MOAS website Calendar & Blogs at <https://www.sarasotamoaa.com/> or text Ron Wozniak: 941-779-5448 or e-mail: RonWozniak13@gmail.com or Linda at 941-779-5447 or NauticalEffect@msn.com.

Future Events/Outings— **Details on YAHOO Page -**

Sunday 26 Jan - Sarasota Polo Club Match 1st Match 1300

Wednesday 29 Jan - Inshore Fishing

Sunday 9 Feb Super Bowl LIX Party Venue TBD Need host.

Possible Spring Training Games

Sunday 23 Feb Twins @ Pirates, LECOM Park: 1305

Saturday 15 Mar Rays @ Orioles, Ed Smith Stadium: 1305, or

Thursday 20 Mar Yankees @ Orioles, Ed Smith: 1805

SARASOTA MILITARY OFFICERS FOUNDATION, INC

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT: (Bill Lawyer): Susan and I will be meeting in early January to plan our strategy for 2025.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Propose a donation to Honor Flight.
- We need someone to take Media and website from Craig.
- Luncheon venue search committee: Dave, Woz, Linda, Steve, Mary, and Peggy. Dave will head the committee.

BOARD APPROVED ACTIONS/MOTIONS:

- A motion to approve a \$500.00 donation to Honor Flight was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- The Board accepted 2025 proposed budgets for MOAS and SMOF as presented by Christa per email to members.

BOARD ACTIONS/MOTIONS NOT APPROVED: None

The meeting adjourned at 1515NEXT MEETING: The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday February 3, 2025 1400 hours at the the Meadows Lifestyle and Wellness Facility, 3350 Longmeadow

MONTH	BOARD	LUNCHEON
January	Monday 6	Wednesday 15
February	Monday 3	Friday 21
March	Monday 3	Friday 21

LUNCHEON PROGRAMS	
January	State College Presidents String Quartet
February	NOAA Hurricane Hunters
March	St Paddy's Day Program



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Michael Lindquist

While MOAA represents the issues most important to members of America's Armed Forces, it is up to us to flood our legislative leaders in Washington with letters of support for various bills under consideration in the Senate and the House of Representatives. With the establishment of the new 119th Congress on January 3, 2025 there are no bills under consideration yet. Recommend you access the [MOAA Legislative Action Center](#) periodically to review the legislative issues of concern as they are identified.

In the interim, here is information on a product of the 118th Congress:

Dole Act Becomes Law: What It Means to Veterans and Caregivers

President Biden signed the *Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act* into law Jan. 2, after years of arduous advocacy by MOAA and more than 40 other veterans organizations. This landmark bipartisan bill, representing more than 90 pieces of legislation developed throughout the 118th Congress, provides significant relief to veterans and their families by expanding benefits, enhancing services, and improving long-term care solutions.

"This is a momentous day for the veterans' community and for the health and well-being of our veterans, their caregivers, and survivors," said MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret). "The Dole Act's passage is a testament to what can be achieved when advocates, policymakers, and the veterans, their families, survivors, and caregivers work together to support those who have served."

Leaders of both the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs committees in the 118th Congress — chairmen Rep. Mike Bost (R-Ill.) and Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.), along with ranking members Rep. Mark Takano (D-Calif.) and Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) — were pivotal in advancing the Dole Act to its successful conclusion.

Bost praised the law for addressing veterans' needs, not adding to government bureaucracy.

"From expanding job training opportunities for transitioning servicemembers and veterans, to improving mental health care for caregivers, to protecting veterans' healthcare options for day-to-day services to more elderly care options, and much more in between — I know this legislation will make a difference for veterans and their families," Bost said.

The act honors former Sen. Elizabeth Dole, a lifelong advocate and champion for veterans and their caregivers. It advances her efforts and addresses some



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Michael Lindquist

February: Love is in the Air

February is a month that celebrates love, especially through the observance of Valentine's Day—a time when we send cards, sometimes anonymously, to express our affection for others. Reviewing history we determine that Valentine's Day was established by Pope Gelasius on February 14 to honor the martyrdom of Saint Valentine, who was executed by Emperor Claudius II.

However, February is more than just a time to express love for one another. It is the second month of the year, symbolizing purification and serving as a bridge between winter and spring. It represents the transition from darkness to light, from nature's dormancy to the expectation of awakening.

The Qur'an states:

"And We certainly sent Moses with Our signs, [saying], 'Bring out your people from darkneses into the light, and remind them of the days of Allah.' Indeed, in that are signs for everyone patient and grateful." (14:5)

In the Jewish faith, light is a powerful metaphor: "A mitzvah is a candle, and the Torah is light" (Proverbs 6:23)

"The candle of God is the soul of man" (Proverbs 20:27)

Christianity also connects light to divinity.

According to the Gospel of John (1:1-5), "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

A common understanding of the Light of God is that light represents wisdom. The Word of God is seen as light, through which understanding and truth emerge.

Light is energy, and energy is all around us. While we may not always see, hear, or feel it, it is always present.

Across all religions and throughout the Universe, God is light, light is energy, and energy is life. It is a common spiritual belief that God resides within each of us. The universal truth is that all things are in order, and the light within us nurtures and brings forth all that is good

Michael

of the most critical issues facing veterans, their caregivers, and the broader community today.

Some key benefits of the legislation:

Home Care and Caregiver Support

- **Full Coverage for Home Nursing Care:** Increases the VA's share of home nursing care costs from 65% to 100%, expanding access to these essential services.
- **Mental Health Grants for Caregivers:** Provides grants and contracts to mental health service providers for family caregivers.
- **Streamlined Application Processes:** Reduces bureaucratic hurdles for caregivers seeking benefits.
- **Expanded Support Programs:** Offers training, financial aid, and mental health resources for caregivers not eligible for VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC).
- **Home Health Aides Pilot Program:** Launches a pilot program to hire nursing assistants for in-home care in underserved regions.

Fighting Veteran Homelessness

- **Higher Per Diem for Transitional Housing:** Boosts rates from 115% of costs to 133%, with higher rates for regions with elevated costs.
- **Basic Necessities for Unhoused Veterans:** Allows the VA to supply bedding, hygiene products, food, and transportation to medical appointments.
- **Prevention Efforts:** Strengthens initiatives to identify veterans at risk of homelessness and includes funding for job training, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment.

Access to VA Health Care

- **Home- and Community-Based Care:** Allocates funds for in-home care services and related items.
- **Same-Day Scheduling:** Mandates a plan for same-day appointment scheduling.
- **Dental Benefits:** Establishes a pilot dental program for veterans with heart disease and improvements to existing programs and services.
- **Telehealth Services:** Enhances telehealth options for rural and underserved veterans.
- **Rural Ambulance Coverage:** Provides reimbursements for ambulance transportation in remote areas.

- **Mobile Mammography:** Expands funding for mobile mammography services.
- **Mental Health Services:** Strengthens reporting requirements on VA mental health services and suicide prevention efforts, while increasing non-VA mental health support options for veterans in the community.

Education, Employment, and Economic Benefits

- **Education Benefits:** Enhances the Fry Scholarship and the GI Bill housing stipend.
- **Oversight of Institutions:** Tightens oversight of educational providers serving veterans.
- **Technology Training:** Expands access to high-tech training and education programs for veterans transitioning to civilian careers.
- **Home Loan Adjustments:** Introduces changes benefitting Native American veterans.
- **Updated Burial Allowances:** Broaden eligibility for burial allowances and revises definitions for surviving spouses.

More Work Ahead

This achievement is a direct result of persistent advocacy from MOAA members and partners. Your efforts, including letter-writing campaigns and active engagement, made the Dole Act a reality. If you or your family will benefit from the legislation, MOAA encourages you to share your story by contacting msc@moaa.org.

While the signing of the Dole Act is a significant victory, the work is far from over. MOAA remains committed to ensuring the law's effective and efficient implementation.

With the new Congress, we have new opportunities to advocate for the needs of our uniformed services and veteran communities. MOAA will continue to be a leader in ensuring those in and out of uniform receive the care, support, benefits, and recognition they earned.

Your efforts are critical to our success. Stay tuned for more information on our advocacy priorities for this year, and please stay continuously engaged to let your lawmakers know what is important to you.

VA to Waive Copayments for 'Whole Health' Medical Services

Veterans Affairs officials plan to waive co-pays for certain "well-being" health care appointments to encourage more veterans to look into services like yoga, meditation and wellness counseling. The move could potentially save patients several hundred dollars a year in medical fees but is less focused on financial relief than emphasizing "the overall well-being of the veteran," according to a department release.

The department defines Whole Health services as medical care independent of a specific diagnosis or illness. Instead, appointments focus on the general wellness of the patient, including stress management techniques, skill-building programs and quality-of-life boosters like yoga.

The co-pay relief is only a proposal for now. VA officials will have to go through a months-long rulemaking process before the fees can be waived.

In recent months, department leaders have also proposed waiving co-pays for telehealth medical visits and outpatient mental health care appointments. Officials have not said when any of those proposals will be finalized, or if the change in presidential administrations could disrupt that process.

JANUARY 2025 LUNCHEON



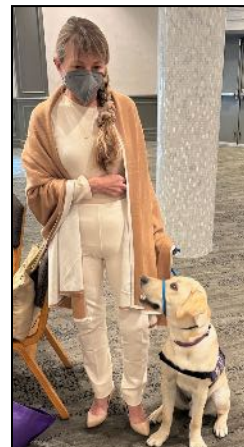
MOAS 2025 Officers and Board of Directors Installation
(L-R) Bill Lawyer (Director), Jon Gordon (Immediate Past President), Len Friedlander (Director), Pete Dering (Secretary), Christa Friedlander (Treasurer), Ron Wozniak (2nd Vice President), {Cider - service dog in training}, Steve Carnes (1st Vice President), Dave Downer (President)



FCOC Southwest Area VP Gary Nolan installed the 2025 MOAS Board of Directors



SCF(M/S) Presidential String Quartet
(l-r) Sameer Hamid, Rachel DeMoranville, Jacob Rodriguez, & Albert Molina-Sierra



Linda Wozniak & 'Cider'



Jon Gordon (l) & Joe Cyr



Ed DuPree & June Wolgemuth



Joe Jennings (l) & Larry Bennison



Karen & Paul Purviance



Chris & Cynthia Nind



(l-r)Linda Brent, Sylvia Barber & Steve Carnes



50/50 Manager Mary Gordon (l) & Assistant Christa Friedlander



Gary Nolan (l) & Dave Downer



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS
Ron & Linda Wozniak
+ Cider



Joe & Blanche Barresi and Bill Lawyer



Barbara Shaver (l) & Sara Little



Art Hillman (l) & Wesley Moy

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Sarasota World Affairs Council 2025 Lecture Series

New College Campus Mildred Sainer Pavillion
5313 Bay Shore Road Sarasota, Florida 34243

Feb. 20, 2025 - Threat Multiplier:

Climate Change, the Military and Global Security

Ms. Sherri Goodman,

Senior Fellow, Woodrow Wilson International Center's
Polar Institute and Environmental Change and Security Program

RSVP to: info@sarasotawac.org

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Member Information Changes

High, William A. Maj, USMC (Ronnie)
1435 E. Venice Ave., Unit 104, #188

Venice, FL 34292-3074

941-756-2071 highb0923@yahoo.com

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Sarasota, FL 34233-3237

941-867-3497 richarddwindsor@hotmail.com

Moy, Wesley R COL, USA (Brenda)

6403 Willowshire Way

Bradenton, FL 34212-3302

703-850-5507 wrmoy11@gmail.com

Hullinger, Craig H, Col, USMC

708 W. Graham Street

Bloomington IL 61701

941-312-1032 craighullinger@gmail.com

Prifti, Gary P LCDR, USN (Michelle)

215-771-0067 813-317-8106

Moore, Alexander R, LTJG, USN (Carol)

941-928-7234



MOAS MEET & GREET

Wednesday January 22nd

5:30pm to 7:30pm

Mattison's 41

7275 S Tamiami Trl

Sarasota, FL 34231

<https://mattisons.com/forty-one>

Please let Peggy O'Connell know by Monday
January 20th if you will be attending.

pegoconnell12@gmail.com

or (312) 982-1374

HELP WANTED

Volunteer Guides Needed at Patriot Plaza

If interested, or for more information,
please reach out to:

Maria Schaedler-Luera

Patriot Plaza Tour Coordinator

Email: patriotplaza@sarasotaarts.org

Phone: 941-365-5118 x305

YAHOO EVENTS ON PAGE 10

Sarasota Polo - January 26

Contact Chris Nind

cvnind@comcast.net

Spring Training Baseball

Contact Ron Wozniak

RonWozniak13@gmail.com

HELP !!!!! UNKNOWN DONOR - Sarasota Military Officers Foundation (SMOF)

Our SMOF Scholarship Fund recently received a very generous donation from a financial institution. However, the donor's name was not provided.

We have been trying to get in touch with this very generous donor to provide a receipt and thank him/her on behalf of the Foundation. Request you please contact our Treasurer via email or phone as soon as possible with your information.

Christa Friedlander

ladyhawk9306@gmail.com

941-927-0996

TRICARE For Life Enrollment Fees, Cost Shares Part of New Budget Report

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has once again targeted TRICARE For Life (TFL) in its biennial report outlining options for reducing the deficit.

The [December 2024 report](#) highlights savings that could be achieved by introducing a requirement for a TFL enrollment fee and/or minimum out-of-pocket cost. Similar concepts have been presented in past CBO reports, which are issued every two years to provide information to lawmakers confronting budgetary challenges.

Last year, nearly 200 MOAA members and staff took this issue to Capitol Hill as part of our Advocacy in Action campaign, ensuring elected officials understand the intense opposition to TFL fees. Retirees already have fulfilled all the requirements to earn their health care benefit, and MOAA will fight any attempts to cut it, including fee increases designed to shift costs from DoD to seniors who rely on TFL.

While no current legislation proposes TRICARE fee increases, MOAA takes these threats seriously given pressures on the DoD budget and precedent for such proposals. From FY 2013 to FY 2017, MOAA's efforts helped to block five consecutive administration budget request proposals for TFL enrollment fees.

Some details on the options included in the CBO report:

TFL Enrollment Fee

Currently, TFL enrollment is automatic once a beneficiary starts paying Medicare Part B premiums. There is no enrollment fee or monthly premium for TFL coverage.

A CBO proposal would require Medicare-eligible beneficiaries who choose to enroll in TFL to pay an annual enrollment fee of \$610 for individual coverage or \$1,220 for family coverage. The enrollment fees would be indexed to grow at the same rate as average Medicare costs in later years.

TFL Cost Sharing

The other CBO measure affecting TFL would introduce minimum out-of-pocket requirements, including an \$850 deductible – TFL would not cover any of the first \$850 of a beneficiary's Medicare cost-sharing. For the first \$4,250 in total medical expenses each year, Medicare would pay its 80% (or \$3,400) while the TFL beneficiary would be responsible for the full \$850 not covered by Medicare.

After the deductible was satisfied, TFL would cover only 50% of the next \$7,650 in Medicare cost-sharing. This means TFL beneficiaries could face up to \$4,675 in cost-sharing per year. Similar to the enrollment fee proposal, cost-sharing requirements would increase annually at the rate of Medicare cost increases.

Protecting Your Earned Benefit

The options outlined in the CBO report come from various sources including past proposed legislation or budget proposals, congressional offices, federal agencies, and the private sector. "As a collection, the options are intended to reflect a range of possibilities, not a ranking of priorities or an exhaustive list," the report states. "Inclusion or exclusion of any particular option does not imply approval or disapproval by CBO, and the report makes no recommendations."

MOAA appreciates the importance of addressing the deficit, but our nation must fulfill obligations to those who serve a full career in uniform. We will fight any proposal that increases costs to seniors who rely on TFL for their health care. The TFL benefit was a key component of the compensation and benefits package that sustained the all-volunteer force throughout two decades of war – MOAA will also protect the future of TFL for current working-age retirees and career servicemembers who are counting on TFL as a critical part of their future retirement plans.

MOAA will be monitoring for any signs that CBO's concepts have gotten traction. The administration budget request, due in February but sometimes delayed during the first year of a new administration, will likely give us our first glimpse at any potential proposals to increase TRICARE fees. Look for updates on these and other legislative issues in The MOAA Newsletter and at MOAA.org.

New Ford-Class Aircraft Carriers Will Be Named After Bill Clinton, George W. Bush

USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN-78), the first ship in the Navy's new carrier class, was commissioned in 2017; the fifth and sixth ships of the class also will be named for U.S. presidents.

The future USS William J. Clinton & USS George W. Bush will become the fifth and sixth ships of the Ford class -- the class of ships that is slated to eventually replace the venerable Nimitz-class carriers that are in operation today.

Only the lead ship of the class of aircraft carriers, the USS Gerald R. Ford, has actually been built and is serving in the Navy. The next two carriers in the class -- the future USS John F. Kennedy and the USS Enterprise -- are under construction.

The USS Doris Miller, the fourth planned Ford-class carrier, scheduled for construction next year, honors Messman Second Class Doris Miller, who not only behaved heroically during the attack on Pearl Harbor but would become the first Black recipient of the Navy Cross. Miller was killed in action in 1943..

The future USS Enterprise was named in honor of her predecessor -- the Navy's first nuclear aircraft carrier -- but when commissioned, she will also be the ninth U.S. Navy vessel and third aircraft carrier to bear the name.



**YAHOO
Young At Heart Organization
Linda & Ron Wozniak**

**Looking for Your Ideas & Volunteers to Organize
Future YAHOO Events**

We have other YAHOO Events/Outings in mind and would like to see other MOAS Members and/or spouses come up with suggestions and hopefully volunteer to assist and/or organize an event/outing. Linda and Woz will assist you along the way. It is fun and you will be glad you were able to make MOAS an even better organization.

FUTURE EVENTS & OUTINGS

Sunday 26 January - 1230

Sarasota Polo Club

1st Match starts @ 1300

8201 Polo Club Ln, Sarasota, FL 34240

The cost per person is \$23.00.

Tailgate Theme: Salute to our Military & 1st Responders so be sure to wear your Military Branch apparel.

MOAS has 3 tailgate spaces on the spectator side of the field, (North side), so if you would like to attend, **please let Chris know ASAP NLT MONDAY 20 JANUARY and Cc Woz** because numbers are limited.

Bring a chair and your preferred drinks and some finger food to share. Please coordinate with Chris on your dish to share. Friends & Family are welcome. Please include their names in your e-mail.

Parking is included and then walk to our spaces. Dress according for the weather and bring sunscreen and a hat. Ladies, we will be stomping in divots, so heels are not the best choice. Remember to wear your Military Branch apparel. Binoculars are also useful.

Restrooms are near our tailgate spaces.

Dogs are welcome but must be kept on a leash.

Suggest you arrive about 12.30.

Go to sarotapolo.com for a detailed explanation of the game and find out about Sarasota Polo Club. The entrance to the tailgate section is from the north side of the field.

We are limited to 24 spectators included with the tailgate spaces, if we go over that number then those

members will have to pay for parking and general admission, but could then join us at the tailgate area.

Chris' cell is 239-784-0382 and his

email cvnind@comcast.net.

Cc: RonWozniak13@gmail.com

We have always had a good turnout for this event, and everyone has a great time. If you have never been to a polo match before this is your opportunity to share the experience with your MOAS Family. We are sure you will want to make this an event to put on your calendar for years to come.

Looking forward to seeing you all and remember to wear apparel showing off your Military Branch and encourage your spouse to do the same.

Wednesday 29 January 0800

Inshore Fishing

Freedom Boat Club (FBC) Dock.

12300 Manatee Ave W., Bradenton 34209

4 boat spaces available.

Contact Woz **NLT Monday 27 January**

To reserve your spot

(See fishing note below)

Sunday 9 February Super Bowl LIX Party

We are looking for someone to host it.

YAHOO is looking to attend an **MLB Spring Training Game** in Sarasota and Bradenton. We are only going to organize one Orioles game and a Pirates game.

Contact Woz RonWozniak13@gmail.com **NLT Friday 31 January** as to which game(s) you wish to attend. Ticket prices vary depending on where we can get seats but the prices listed are for the highest cost.

Sunday 23 Feb Twins @ Pirates, 1300 LECOM Park
1611 9th Street W., Bradenton **\$41.00**

Saturday 8 March Rays @ Orioles, 1300 Ed Smith
Stadium 2700 12th Street, Sarasota **\$48.00**

or

Thursday 20 March Yankees @ Orioles, 1800 Ed
Smith Stadium 2700 12th Street, Sarasota **\$48.00**

It is very difficult to schedule an activity when payment is required in advance, so if you are interested, please let me know **NLT Friday January 31** and I will pay for the tickets in advance.

For information on cancellations, changes in venue, dates & times, go to the MOAS website Calendar & Blogs at <https://www.sarasotamoaa.com/> or text Ron Wozniak: 941-779-5448 or e-mail: RonWozniak13@gmail.com or Linda at 941-779-5447 or NauticalEffect@msn.com.

NOTE: Ride Sharing - If you need a ride please check the MOAS online Calendar for folks already signed up nearby. Contact them to inquire about getting a ride to an event or outing. We do not want to preclude folks from attending for lack of transportation. If all else fails contact Woz or Linda.

For all Fishing Outings - Start & quit times are flexible. Cost: fuel & tip for dockhand. Bring your own food & drink & Woz will provide tackle if you do not have any. Recommend you wear appropriate loose-fitting clothing to protect you from the sun and bring plenty of sunscreen. Rubber soled shoes required aboard all boats. Florida Saltwater fishing license required unless a FL Resident 65 or older.

Receive the Breeze via email or view it on www.sarasotamoaa.com or blog sarasotamoaa.blogspot.com



SARASOTA CHAPTER

Friday, February 21, 2025

@ 11:30am

Michael's On East

1212 S East Ave Sarasota, FL 34239

Dress Code – Coat - Tie Optional

MENU

SERVED LUNCHEON

Specialty Bread Basket

ENTREE

Mediterranean Chicken

Topped with Chopped Artichoke, Roasted Red Pepper, Wild Mushroom & Kalamata Olive with Olive Oil, White Wine & Basil served with Short Grain Brown & Wild Rice Pilaf, Steamed Green Beans & Steamed Carrots

VEGETARIAN

Curry Vegetable Bundles

An Array of Seasonal Vegetables in a Light Yellow Curry Wrapped in a Phyllo Bundle, Tied with a Scallion Baked Until Golden Brown

DESSERT

Flan

Creamy, Caramelized Custard Flecked with Vanilla Beans Served with Fresh Fruit

Served Coffee, Decaf & Tea

Pre-set Iced Water

Served Iced Tea w/Lemon upon request

Please make your luncheon reservation by mail.

Fill out the form below and mail us your check.

1. Provide first & last names, rank and service of attendees. Use back of form, if needed. Please note in comments if it is your birthday month, you're a new member, a surviving spouse, or if this is your, or your guests, first time attending.
2. Special diet and vegetarian meal requests **MUST** be submitted together with the initial luncheon reservation. Michaels on East will no longer honor last minute requests at the luncheons.
3. **Your reservation and payment should be received no later than 3 days before the luncheon date.** For late registrations, you must EMAIL or Call our Luncheon Coordinator (Peggy O'Connell). Do **not** contact Michaels on East. We will try to accommodate late registrations, but *no guarantees*. We must inform Michaels on East at least 48 hours in advance. *No refunds will be possible after that date.*
4. If you make your reservation with the intent to pay at the door, we must hold you to that promise, as Michaels on East will charge us for your guaranteed meal, if you attend or not.

MEMBER INFORMATION

Name, Rank Service _____

Phone # _____ email: _____

Please reserve ___ seats for the luncheon

Cost \$39.00/person (Tax & Gratuity incl.) (Note new price)

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____

Name	Meal (E /	Comment

COMMENT CODES: SS-Surviving Spouse; BD-Birthday; NM-New Member

Please mail reservation form and check payable to **MOAS**

to:

PEGGY O'CONNELL

1100 Imperial Drive #303, Sarasota, FL 34236-2465

Questions? (312) 982-1374 or email: pegoconnell12@gmail.com

NAME TAGS

Fill out the form and provide a check for \$16.50 payable to **MOAS** & we will hand deliver a name tag to you at the next luncheon. Please allow 2 weeks for fabrication.

Deliver to Len Friedlander at a luncheon or mail to 8221 Deerbrook Circle, Sarasota, FL 34238.

First Name _____ Last name _____

Rank (Abbreviated) _____ Service _____ Status _____

Example

First Name Henry Last name O'Connell

Rank (Abbreviated) LCDR Service USNR Status Ret



JANUARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH 2025



DATE	EVENT	TIME
Wednesday, Jan 22	MOAS Meet & Greet: Mattison's on 41 - Details on Page 8	5:30 p.m.
Sunday, Jan 26	YAHOO: Polo Match - Details on Page 10	12:30 p.m.
Wednesday Jan 29	YAHOO: Inshore Fishing - Details on Page 10	8:00 a.m.
Monday, Feb 3	MOAS/SMOF Board Meeting - Meadows Wellness Center	2:00 p.m.
Friday, Feb 14	HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	
Friday, Feb 20	Sarasota World Affairs Council - Details on Page 8	
Friday, Feb 21	MOAS Luncheon - Michaels on East - NOAA Hurricane Hunters	11:30 a.m.
Monday, Mar 3	MOAS/SMOF Board Meeting - Meadows Wellness Center	2:00 p.m.
Friday, Mar 21	MOAS Luncheon - Michaels on East - St Paddy's Program	11:30 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP

Chapter Membership Renewal forms for 2025 were mailed to all members early in November. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2025, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We encourage ALL current members to use the application form below when encountering fellow officers in the Sarasota area, and direct them to our website for additional chapter information. www.sarasotamoaa.com

Military Officers Association of Sarasota, Inc. | P.O. Box 1016 Sarasota, FL 34230-1016

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Membership Dues: Regular Surviving Spouse Allied Associate *Mail application with your check for \$35, made payable to MOAS. Postal Newsletter add \$24*

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____ Rank _____ Spouse Name _____

Street Address (Include Apt#) _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____ Birthday mm/dd/yyyy _____

Status: Active Retired Former Officer Regular Reserve Surviving Spouse Foreign _____ Country _____

Service Component: Army Navy Air Force Marine Corps Coast Guard NOAA USPHS National Guard Space Force

Please do not publish my personal information in the Directory Who told you about the Association? _____

Signature _____ Date _____ National MOAA Member Number _____

Revised 11/23

Receive the Breeze via email or view it on www.sarasotamoaa.com or blog sarasotamoaa.blogspot.com