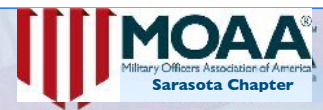


# THE SARASOTA BREEZE



## 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 2015/2017-2024; 4 Star 2016; Website 5-Star 2015-2024  
Vol. XXXVII No. 4 MOAA 4-Star Chapter 2003/2008/2019; MOAA 5 Star Chapter 2004-2007, 2009-2018, 2020-2024 April 2026

2026  
**GIVING CHALLENGE**  
Be The One

Save the Date!  
**APRIL 15-16, 2026**  
NOON to NOON

Presented by the  
Community Foundation of Sarasota County

See Page 9 for Information & Link

### **MARCH 2026 PROGRAM - Southwest Florida Honor Flight**

The purpose of Honor Flights is to safely transport our Veterans to Washington, DC, to be honored at their memorials and receive the welcome home they deserve. Unfortunately, or maybe not, their speaker was not able to make the meeting, so as a truly last-minute substitution, our very own COL Linda Gould, USA, (Ret) not only filled in but did an outstanding job!

Fortunately, COL Gould was on a recent Honor Flight. She originally volunteered to be a guardian/escort for another Veteran making the flight, but Southwest Florida Honor Flight asked her to travel as an honored Veteran. She had an ROTC cadet as her companion and they both thoroughly enjoyed the experience. COL Gould's firsthand experience was instrumental in presenting to the audience what to expect. From boarding the 0430 Florida flight to the late evening arrival, and everything in between; it was a lifetime experience for all involved. A truly worthwhile journey. For more information on how to be an Honored Veteran or a Guardian visit their website at: <https://www.swflhonorflight.org/>.

### **APRIL 2026 PROGRAM - Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches**

Founded in 1957, The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches has been improving the lives of at-risk children through its six Florida locations and comprehensive programs. The Sheriffs Youth Ranches is credited with helping more than 186,000 children and families in Florida. Mending Lives, Healing Hearts. Our vision is to develop young men and women who are able to face the future with a sense of direction, ability and hope.

Mike Kiel is the local representative for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. He has served 11 years with the Youth Ranches. Mike considered himself a friend finder and fundraiser for the children. His primary duty is to raise the needed funds that help bring smiles to the children served by the Youth Ranches.

During his presentation we will learn more about the history, programs, and the children who live on the Ranches.

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Receive the Breeze via email or view it on our website [www.sarasotamoaa.com](http://www.sarasotamoaa.com)

## 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	Steven L. Carnes
1st Vice President	Wesley R. Moy
2nd Vice President	Christopher V. Nind
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	David Downer
<b>Legislative Committee</b>	Michael Lindquist
<b>Vets Affairs/Commission</b>	Peter Dering
<b>Marketing &amp; Communications Committee</b>	
Chairperson	Vacant
Editor-Newsletter	Len Friedlander
Web Site	Len Friedlander
BLOG/Social Media/Photo	Vacant
<b>Membership Committee</b>	
Recruiting & Retention	Len Friedlander
Recruiting & Retention	William F. Lawyer
Reporting & Records	Christa I. Friedlander
<b>Personal Affairs Committee</b>	
Surviving Spouses Liaison	Vacant
Chaplain	Michael Lindquist
<b>Programs Committee</b>	
Chairperson	Christopher Nind
Luncheon Programs	Christopher Nind
Young at Heart [YAHOO]	Ron Wozniak
YAHOO Coordinator	Linda Wozniak
Meet & Greet	Peggy O'Connell
<b>Luncheon Committee</b>	
Chairperson & Coordinator	Mary Gordon
Greeter	Peter Dering
50-50 Manager	Jonathan Gordon
<b>Scholarship Committee</b>	
Chairperson	William F. Lawyer
Member	Brenda Moy
Member	Len Friedlander
Member	Mary Gordon
Member	Linda Wozniak
Member	Art Hillman
<b>JROTC Liaison</b>	William F. Lawyer
<b>Support Our Troops [SOT]</b>	Ron Wozniak
<b>Awards Board Chair</b>	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 Steven L. Carnes

The death of a MOAA member is not only a personal tragedy — it is a life-altering event that leaves surviving spouses facing grief, uncertainty, and a complex military system. Benefits, entitlements, and procedures are detailed and often difficult to navigate even under normal circumstances. This is why having a chapter surviving spouse liaison is essential.

But even before a death occurs, a surviving spouse liaison can play an important role in connecting with other members of our chapter. How do you stay in touch with others? Maybe you prefer social media like Facebook, or email, or text messages. For some, like me, a phone call is top choice.

The need for a personal connection still exists. Nothing brightens your day like a call from an old friend. Sharing a memory or exchanging a laugh with someone lifts the spirits. Personal communication builds strong families and good friends and creates successful institutions and cohesive organizations. Within MOAA chapters, personal interaction among members provides opportunities to build friendships, exchange ideas, and share experiences.

One chapter surviving spouse liaison stated: "My primary roles are to educate chapter members on how to prepare for the eventual loss of a spouse, help surviving spouses through the administrative process of receiving earned benefits, and encourage surviving spouses to remain active in the chapter to stay engaged with friends and receive empathetic support." We need a highly energized, caring, and compassionate surviving spouse liaison to help surviving spouses during this very stressful period."

National MOAA provides a wide range of training and resources for surviving spouse liaisons. Many were discussed at our FCOC meeting in Orlando. In a previous message, I discussed the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter.

Our chapter needs to create a cohesive network for the work of MOAA. We also need to provide a setting for friendships to flourish.

This shared affinity should be practiced in our chapter. The chaplain and the surviving spouse liaison serve as personal outreach to each member. Their role is very important.

In our chapter, we have about 110 members who are over the age of 80. Some live alone. A chapter member who lives alone and has no local family needs a chapter friend or neighbor to exchange a greeting with each day. It could be as simple as texting "Good morning" and the recipient sending a thumbs-up response. The greeter and recipient should share contact information for their next of kin in the event that the greeting is not returned.

Our chapter should also have a list of emergency contacts for its members. We need to make caring for and connecting with each other part of our mission to never stop serving.

We need to insure that MOAA will not abandon families in their darkest moments. Investing in this role — through training, continuity, and institutional support — is an investment in compassion, integrity, and the enduring values of service. If you would like to serve as a surviving spouse liaison, please email me at: [steven.L.Carnes@gmail.com](mailto:steven.L.Carnes@gmail.com).



**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 Tuesday March 3, 2026 at the Meadows Meadows Lifestyle & Wellness Facility. Issues of significance are addressed below. NOTE: The complete minutes and financial reports will be on the MOAS website [www.sarasotamoaa.com](http://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 Steve Carnes called the meeting to order at 1407. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer led by Chaplain Michael Lindquist.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Carnes (Pres), Peter Dering (Sec'y), Christa Friedlander (Treas), Bill Lawyer (Dir), Len Friedlander (Dir), Michael Lindquist (Dir) & Dave Downer (IPP)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Wes Moy (1VP), Chris Nind (2VP) & Richard Greenspan (Dir)

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS & VISITORS PRESENT:** Jon Gordon, Mary Gordon, Linda Wozniak & Ron Wozniak.

**PRESIDENT'S ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

- The next MOAS luncheon will be on Friday, March 20th with a speaker from Southwest Florida Honor Flight (Alex Davenport).
- Bradenton MOAA Luncheon: wonderful meal for only \$25 at Peridia Golf and Country Club.
- Bradenton Dogs Inc Grant: Bradenton MOAA applied for a grant from MOAA to contribute to Dogs, Inc.
- MOAA Visit Confirmation: Deana Kilgore, Program Director, Affiliated Councils & Chapters.
- Richard Greenspan has resigned from the Board. We need a replacement to administer our social media platforms.

**1st VICE PRESIDENT:** (Wes Moy)

In the process of looking at various aspects of MOAS. All distributed to BOD. Have done preliminary looks at (in no particular order):

- Board of Directors onboarding
  - Social media
    - Governance
    - Platform evaluation
  - Fundraising
    - General
    - Legacy donations
  - Strategy
    - SWOT analysis
    - Appeal to younger cohorts
    - MOAS relevance to younger cohorts
  - What else do we need to look at?
  - Is this effort worth it?
  - We all need time to digest
  - Do we conduct a strategy offsite in a few months (not finished yet)
- We need to look at programs targeting different cohorts
- Program evaluation

- Target audience
- Topics
- Relevance to various cohorts
- Speakers
- Quarterly to start? Fall 2026 or the next calendar year
- Possible use of Zoom or other virtual mechanisms
  - Video recording
  - Transcription/summary/meeting notes
- Need to add someone to the Program Committee or Marketing
- Need for addition to Marketing & Communications Committees
- Potential marketing function need for younger cohorts
- Vacancies: Website, Social Media

Representation on legislative action. Ten minutes at the next meeting. Record and post. At this point, a YouTube channel is probably too big of a stretch, but the website may be an appropriate venue. The legislative actions are really easy, I think I did 20 this morning. Meeting venue potential, member country club (like Bradenton). Solicit membership.

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT & PROGRAMS:** (Chris Nind)

**Upcoming Programs**

- 20 March Southwest Florida Honor Flights, Mr. Alex Davenport
- 17 April Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc., Mr. Michael Keil
- 15 May Scholarships, TBD Sarasota County Superintendent, Mr. Terry Connor (Bill Lawyer has the lead)
- 19 June Dogs Inc, Jamie & Trapper Demonstration Guide Dog
- 17 July TBD
- 14 Aug TBD (Are we having an August luncheon meeting?)
- 18 Sept FCOC Surviving Spouse, Ms. Pat Green
- 16 Oct MOAA Affiliated Councils and Chapters, Deana Kilgore, Program Director
- 20 November TBD
- 13 December Winter Military Gala- No Program (?)

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** (Peter Dering) The February 2026 BOD Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** (Christa Friedlander) The February 2026 Treasurer's Reports were approved unanimously.

- Three insurance companies were queried about Directors and Officers insurance.
- A second person from the Board should be registered on our Synovus bank accounts in case of my unavailability.
- A second person should be identified as administrator on our Giving Partner site.
- Received a thank you note from MOTE for our donation.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP:** (Len Friedlander) Current membership is 171. Renewal Mailing to 203 members Nov 18. As of 2/28 - 171 Renewals; 8 Resignations; 4 Moved; 18 No Response. (Woz & Christa have contacted 8- and I have requested Steve Carnes, Wes Moy & Jon Gordon contact remaining 10 members).

**RECRUITING** - Decision was made at last Board Meeting to have a spring picnic on April 12 that would double as a recruiting event. The venue has been contracted but no action has been undertaken as yet to contact potential members and extend invitations.

Additional made available thru the Committee module related to potential members and contact methodologies.

MONTH	BOARD	LUNCHEON
March	Tuesday 3	Friday 20
April	Monday 6	Friday 17
May	Monday 4	Friday 15

	LUNCHEON PROGRAMS
March	Southwest Florida Honor Flight
April	Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches
May	Scholarship Awards Luncheon

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Additional 54 names to contact and 16 names (no email or USPS addresses) on No Contact List. Attended MOAA Roundtable discussion on Committee Module – will discuss at meeting

**JROTC, MCJROTC:** (Bill Lawyer) Nothing to Report..

**LUNCHEON REPORT:** (Mary Gordon) There were 41 reservations made for the February luncheon. The 50/50 receipts were \$135.00 -- \$67 for the SMOF fund and \$68 for three prizes.

**LEGISLATIVE:** (Mike Lindquist) Please refer to the Breeze for the full report.

**MEET & GREET:**(Peggy O’Connell): The next Meet and Greet will be Wed, Mar 11, at 5:00 PM at Patrick’s on Main, Sarasota

**BREEZE NEWSLETTER:** (Len Friedlander) January issue was published and emailed to 223 addressees. Twenty (20) copies were printed and mailed to members.

**WEBSITE:** (Len Friedlander) UP & RUNNING. Scholarship pages and applications working. Still reviewing content and making edits/modifications. Next changes to be installed week of March 2. I would appreciate assistance with Board member review of ALL website content for corrections & updates.

**VETERANS’ AFFAIRS:** (Peter Dering)

- Lutz Buddy Up - Comradery Dinner, every 3rd Wednesday at 6PM. DAV97, 7177 Bee Ridge Rd [toddjameshughes@lutzlive-totell.org](mailto:toddjameshughes@lutzlive-totell.org).
- VA’s skilled home health care program will now cover the costs of in-home and community-based services for Veterans with spinal cord injuries, ALS, and other complex medical conditions at 100% of the cost of similar care in a VA Community Living Center. This is an increase from the previous rate of 65%.
- Calling all artists! Here’s your opportunity to show off your talent and use your artwork to honor Veterans. VA and the Veterans Day National Committee are now accepting entries for the 2026 Veterans Day Poster Contest. Submissions are due by 11:59 p.m. (EDT) on April 1, 2026.

- The next SC Veterans Council meeting will be April 14, 2026, at 3:00 PM, at Gold Coast Eagle Distributing, 7051 Wireless Court, Sarasota, FL 34240. [sarasotacvc.org](http://sarasotacvc.org)

• **Sarasota County Honors Veterans - Monthly Ceremony**

At 9:00 AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, at the Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota County honors those honorably discharged veterans who have passed away in the area without family. Please join this important Monthly Ceremony.

**YAHOO:** (Ron & Linda Wozniak)

**Past Events/Outings**

- Friday 6 Feb MOTE Science Education Aquarium - 22 Attendees
- Saturday 28 Feb DeSoto National Monument - 10 Attendees

**Future Events/Outings**

- Saturday 7 March Palma Sola Cleanup Community Service
- Saturday 14 March Smugglers Cove Mini Golf 5:30 PM
- Sunday 12 April Annual Picnic & Recruiting, Phillippi Estate Park — 1:00 PM

**SARASOTA MILITARY OFFICERS FOUNDATION, INC**

**SCHOLARSHIP REPORT:** (Bill Lawyer): We have received a handful of applications since the website went live on Feb 15 Campus visits are ongoing throughout the month of March.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**BOARD APPROVED ACTIONS/MOTIONS:** The annual picnic being held in April is also a recruiting event. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to NOT require dues from new joining members for this year.

**The Meeting adjourned at 1520.**

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Board meeting will be Monday, April 6, 2026 2:00 pm at the Meadows Fitness & Wellness Facility 3350 Longmeadow .

# 2026 GIVING CHALLENGE



**FROM THE  
1st VICE PRESIDENT  
Wes Moy**

The mission of the Military Officers Association of Sarasota (MOAS) — a non-profit 501(c)(19) organization — is to advocate for military veterans and their families, support community service and education, foster fellowship among officers and surviving spouses of officers in the Sarasota area, and enhance the image of America’s uniformed services in our local community. Importantly, this mission extends beyond our membership to all those eligible to join our chapter.

As part of our ongoing membership outreach, we recently contacted nearly 400 MOAA national members in our area who are not yet affiliated with MOAS. I encourage each of you to keep an eye out for prospective members — whether you encounter them at one of our monthly meetings or in your day-to-day activities. Eligible individuals include uniformed service officers as well as others who meet our membership criteria.

There are numerous veterans’ issues currently before Congress, and I join Michael Lindquist in strongly urging you to make your voice heard with our Congressional delegation. The easiest way to do so is through the MOAA Legislative Action Center at <https://moaa.quorum.us/>. There, you can select the issues most important to you, and the Quorum system will guide you through contacting your representative and senators directly. Please also remember to sign in to the MOAA website when you do — it helps demonstrate the collective impact of our chapter’s advocacy.

**Make your voice heard!**

Receive the Breeze via email or view it on [www.sarasotamoaa.com](http://www.sarasotamoaa.com) or *blog* [sarasotamoaa.blogspot.com](http://sarasotamoaa.blogspot.com)



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### Michael Lindquist

#### Needs and Wants

*"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."* – **Philippians 4:19**

As Philippians points out, those who believe in God's word will have all their needs met and their wants available to those who believe.

There is a clear line between a need and a want. While experiencing this human form, our needs, those God has promised, are ones that meet our worldly requirements that in turn assure our survival. These needs to which God speaks include air to breathe, water to drink, food to eat, shelter for protection and the free will to make choices as to how we use God's gifts. We trust in the word of God that these needs will be given to those who trust in God, knowing God is good.

*"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."* – **Matthew 6:33**

Wants are desires for something better. God does not oppose us enjoying the riches of the earth, for it is God who put the means for joy and prosperity to improve our lot in the world. God has provided the

means for us to enjoy good health, shelter that protects us from the elements, and the means to keep the earth clean with air to breathe, water to drink, nutritious foods to eat. We tend to confuse wants with needs. We hold false expectations about what God should provide. We may become angry when our wants go unfulfilled.

Prayer is a means to communicate with the God of your understanding. We pray even though God already knows our needs. If God already knows what we need, why do we take the time to pray? We pray to foster relationships with a higher power, influence outcomes, and align our hearts with His will. Prayer serves as an Expression of Faith and an Acknowledgment of our Dependence on God's guidance. When we pray, we gain a connection to God and a deeper understanding of God's purpose for us in this place and at this time within our human experience. These aspects highlight the significance of prayer that goes beyond our needs and wants and emphasize prayer's role in our spiritual journey.

*"You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart."* – **Jeremiah 29:13**

We are on a spiritual journey in pursuit of the life-giving truths found in God's Word. This journey is more than a religious experience instead we integrate our heart and soul and deepen our faith in God's presence within and all around us.

**Blessings on your journey,**

*Michael*



## Sarasota Military Officers Foundation (SMOF)

*Bill Lawyer*

During this past months, the SMOF provided \$10,000 to the Ringling College of Art and Design for support of Veterans attending their institution. Below are thank-you letters from two of the most recent veteran scholarship recipients at Ringling, Danielle Serocki & Austin Powell.

Dear Military Officers Association of Sarasota,

I would like to sincerely thank you for the generous award of the Sarasota Military Officers Foundation Scholarship. Your support plays an integral role in helping me pursue my academic and professional goals, and I am incredibly grateful for your kindness.

I am currently a sophomore majoring in Graphic Design, and after serving seven years in the United States Navy. I am now able to fully focus on pursuing my creative passions. Growing up in Tulsa, Oklahoma, I always dreamed of attending art school, but financial barriers kept that out of reach. Joining the Navy was a way for me to serve my country and also work towards funding my education. The GI Bill has been tremendously helpful, but this scholarship brings me even closer to fully funding my tuition and allows me to concentrate on developing my skills. It not only eases the financial burden but also moves me one step closer to my goal of becoming an art director at a leading design firm.

I deeply admire the Sarasota Military Officers Foundation's commitment to supporting veterans and students pursuing higher education and I am honored to be a recipient of your generosity. Your investment in my future is something I will carry with me as I continue my studies and work toward a career in design.

Once again, thank you for your thoughtful contribution. Your generosity has a meaningful impact on my education and enables me to focus fully on my growth as a designer. I am truly appreciative of the opportunities your support provides me as I continue my academic journey and pursue my professional aspirations.

Sincerely,  
Danielle Serocki

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the generous scholarship you awarded me. Your support has been an incredible blessing, providing the resources I need to fully dedicate myself to my education and my family.

Transitioning from nine years of active duty as an Intelligence Analyst to pursuing my BFA in Virtual Reality at Ringling College of Art and Design has been a deeply rewarding journey. While I am very thankful for my veteran benefits, navigating the costs of a world-class education alongside everyday family expenses can be challenging.

Your generosity has beautifully bridged that gap. Because of your support, I can focus entirely on my studies and my senior thesis—a VR project developed in collaboration with the VA focused on veteran well-being—while still being a present husband and father to my young daughter.

Furthermore, because your scholarship relieved the pressure of needing to take on extra work, it gave me the priceless gift of time. I have been able to use that time to step up and lead the Veterans Club on campus this year. I am incredibly proud of what our group has accomplished. Recently, using the club's own independently raised funds, we were able to fully sponsor a fellow student veteran to attend a professional development conference in California, covering their flight, lodging, and conference pass. Having the personal bandwidth to lead the club and facilitate these kinds of opportunities for others is incredibly important to me.

I also wanted to take a moment to say how much I enjoyed seeing your organization at the Portraits of Courage, Vietnam Remembered 2025 event. Thank you so much for being there. It is just one more example of the wonderful things you do for our local area, and I truly appreciate your ongoing, active support for veterans.

Thank you again for your kindness, your generosity, and your belief in my future.

I will continue working hard to represent your organization well.

Sincerely,

Austin Hunter Powell



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### Michael Lindquist

#### Special Notice from MOAA Government Relations

**Advocacy in Action 2026** is officially underway, and we need your voice to help set the stage for our in-person fly-in event in mid-April.

#### Key Bills Supported by MOAA:

Each spring, MOAA advocates from across the country come together to support key priorities affecting service-members, veterans, their families, and survivors.

This year's campaign will focus on four important initiatives designed to strengthen support for the uniformed services and veteran communities:

- **H.R. 2102/S.1032: [Major Richard Star Act](#)**
- **H.R. 1732: [GUARD VA Benefits Act](#)**
- **H.R. 6796: [Military CARE Act](#)**
- **S. 3168: [Shutdown Fairness Act](#)**

On April 15, participants will meet with lawmakers and their staff on Capitol Hill for our annual Advocacy in Action Hill Day, sharing these priorities directly. However, that should not be the first time they hear about them.

That is where you come in. Our Hill Day engagements will be stronger when lawmakers have already heard from you, their constituent, back home.

In the weeks ahead, MOAA will make it easy for you to send messages to your elected officials through our Legislative Action Center. These messages will help demonstrate broad support for the issues our advocates will be discussing in-person on Capitol Hill.

You can strengthen this effort by taking a few simple steps:

- Watch for Advocacy in Action alerts and take action through [MOAA's Legislative Action Center](#).
- Share these advocacy opportunities with fellow MOAA members, chapter and council members, and advocates in your personal network.
- Encourage friends, family members, and others in your local community to participate and lend their voices.

Advocacy in Action succeeds because of the strength of MOAA's nationwide community. When our members walk into congressional offices, they carry the collective voice of thousands of advocates who care deeply about the future of the all-volunteer force.

Thank you for standing with MOAA and for helping ensure Congress keeps faith with those who serve and their families.

**Advocacy: [Write to your legislators](#) today and support MOA initiatives and goals**

Learn more about MOAA's key advocacy issues and contact your elected officials using our messaging platform.

**[TAKE ACTION](#)**

# March Luncheon Photos



Linda Gould  
Standing in for our speaker



**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**  
Rachel Taylor, Linda Brent & Pau O'Connell



Steve Carnes (I), Francine King  
& Michael Mason



Wes Moy (I) & Michael Lindquist



Elke & Troy Scott



(l-r) Wes Moy, Michael Lindquist, Debra Sandberg, Bob & Phyllis Wolf



Linda WOZNIAK (l) Bill Lawyer & Brenda Moy



Estrella Engelhardt (l) & Karen Olson



Bobbie Hamilton (l) & Linda Gould



Christa Friedlander (l) & Phyllis Wolf



Art & Cindy Hillman



Joe Barresi (l) & Rich Greenspan



Carl & Mary Lou Morris

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Presented by the  
Community Foundation of Sarasota County

### Mark Your Calendars to Donate to our Sarasota Military Officers Foundation !!!

The Giving Challenge is a one day, 24-hour online event from **Noon April 15 to Noon April 16** hosted by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.

**All monies donated to the Sarasota Military Officers Foundation (SMOF) will go to our scholarship fund**

The Patterson Foundation will graciously match all individual donations up to \$100 per donor credit card. We encourage couples to donate separately as \$100 will be \$200 or \$200 becomes \$400 for two donations in different names on different credit cards.

**Tell your family and friends!**

To donate to our **Sarasota Military Officers Foundation** click on the following link:  
<https://www.givingchallenge.org/organizations/sarasota-military-officers-foundation-inc>

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATES New Members

**DeVries**, Martina, LTC, USA (Ret)  
7947 Waterbend Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34240-1262  
813-416-6567 martinadevries@LIVE.COM

**Copeland**, Naomi D Mrs. (Brian)  
5330 DeSoto Rd APT 2317  
Sarasota FL 34235-2704  
563-723-1503 naomi.copeland@yahoo.com

**Tanner**, Laurence A 1st Lt, USAF (Janis)  
11637 Garessio Ln  
Sarasota, FL 34238-2893  
860-930-4088 toptanner@gmail.com

**Waters**, Mark COL, USA (Ret)  
10929 Daybreak Glen  
Parrish, FL 34219-1415  
757-685-9034 watersm100@gmail.com

### How to Spot—and Stop—Imposter Scams

Scammers are getting more savvy and personal, posing as investment professionals or financial institution employees, all to gain your confidence and trust. With vigilance and a few tips on imposter techniques and tactics, you can recognize these fraudsters and steer clear of their traps.

#### Here are four signs to watch out for:

- **Too-good-to-be-true offers.** Opportunities that sound too good to be true probably are.
- **High-pressure tactics.** Messages or social media ads that demand your attention are trying to press your panic button. Don't fall for any urgent requests to act immediately.
- **Contacts from out of the blue.** Unexpected messages you didn't initiate are often a good sign you're being targeted by a fraudster.
- **Access and download requests.** Think twice if you receive any requests to download software, share one-time passcodes, or allow remote access to your device.

#### If you encounter any of these:

- **Stop.** Don't give out or confirm any personal information (even if they already have it). Never send money, open new accounts, or take any action without stopping to verify what you are doing is legitimate.
- **Drop.** Scammers can't reach you if you disengage. Hang up the call, ignore the chat, swipe past the ad, or leave the group and then block the phone number or profiles so they can't contact you again.
- **Report.** Report the incident as spam or scam to the company or platform where you received it. Use a telephone number or electronic address you know to be the real company/platform.



### MOAS MEET & GREET

Wednesday April 8th

5:00pm to 7:30pm

Grillsmith

6240 S Tamiami Trail

Sarasota, FL 34231

<https://www.grillsmith.com/sarasota>

**Please let Peggy O'Connell know by  
Monday April 6th if you will be attending**

[pegoconnell12@gmail.com](mailto:pegoconnell12@gmail.com)

or (312) 982-1374



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

**PAST EVENT/OUTING**

**Saturday 28 February**

**DeSoto National Memorial Bradenton, FL**

Located on the bank of the Manatee River. This was a FREE Outing and 10 attended (Ron & Linda Wozniak, Nancee Jones, Art Hillman, Steve Carnes, Larry Woodmansee, Jim & Sueanne Townley, Grant & Peggy Krueger).



This was a follow up YAHOO outing after Ranger Daniel Stephens' enlightening program at our 20 February MOAS Luncheon meeting. He was our Weapons Demonstrator and Guide, and he continued to enthusiastically demonstrate his knowledge of the De Soto Expedition.



After the tour we had lunch at Floridays Woodfire Grill overlooking Pier 77 Marina & Anna Maria Sound.

**Volunteer:** Looking for your ideas & Volunteers to Organize Future YAHOO Events to assist and/or organize an event/outing. Linda & Woz will assist you along the way. It is fun & you will be glad you were able to make MOAS an even better organization.

**Cancellations and/or Changes:** For information on venue dates & times, see the [MOAS Website Events Calendar](#); text Ron 941-779-5448 or [RonWozniak13@gmail.com](mailto:RonWozniak13@gmail.com) or Linda @ 941-779-5447 or [NauticalEffect@msn.com](mailto:NauticalEffect@msn.com)

**UPCOMING EVENTS/OUTINGS**

**Sunday 12 April 1:00-5:00 p.m.**

**5th ANNUAL PICNIC & RECRUITING EVENT**

**Phillippi Estate Park Pavilion**

5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota

The MOAS Spring Picnic is one of the first signs of spring, and after the cold snap we've had this year its a great opportunity to be outdoors and to socialize with our MOAS friends.

MOAS rented the pavilion, and will provide Publix fried chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers & buns. Please BYO drinks. For Families, children are welcome. This is a MOAS Recruiting event so please try to bring a prospective member.

Requesting all attendees to coordinate with Linda Wozniak on a dish to pass **NLT Friday 3 April** - and contact Woz **NLT Friday 3 April** to let him know you are coming with names & numbers.



We are looking for volunteers to help the Picnic Committee. So far Steve Carnes has volunteered to grill.

If you have any games you would like to bring, like Corn Hole, Bocce Ball, etc., or have a portable grill & charcoals, contact Woz.

Woz will populate a list of who is attending on the MOAS website online [EVENTS Calendar](#).

**Saturday 25 April 6:00 - 8:00pm**

**Sunset Gathering, Siesta Key Beach.**

**948 Beach Road, Sarasota.**

This is a "No Host Event." BYO chairs, food and drink. It can get cool towards sunset so dress accordingly.

**This is not the usual MOAS location but is in front of the main pavilion.**

From the pavilion look towards the beachhead for the US USMC & POW/MIA Flags flying.

The other Services are welcome to bring their flags. If you do not have a pole contact Woz. No glass containers allowed on the beach. Handicap accessible and there is plenty of parking & restrooms. Please let us know if you are coming. Ron 941-779-5448 or [RonWozniak13@gmail.com](mailto:RonWozniak13@gmail.com) and/or Linda @ 941-779-5447 or [NauticalEffect@msn.com](mailto:NauticalEffect@msn.com)



**SARASOTA CHAPTER**

**Friday April 17, 2026**

**@ 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**

**Panko Crusted Chicken Breast**  
*Stuffed with Garlic-Herb Cream  
 Cheese, topped with Artichoke,  
 Roasted Red Pepper, Wild Mushroom,  
 Kalamata Olives & Sun-dried  
 Tomatoes served with Roasted Garlic  
 Mashed Potatoes, Haricot Verts &  
 Baby Carrots*

**VEGETARIAN**

**Wild Mushroom & Parsnip Ragout  
 over Cheesy Polenta**

**DESSERT**

**Pecan-Crusted Key Lime Tart**  
*Michael's Signature Restaurant Style  
 Tart with Balsamic-Black Pepper  
 Strawberry Salsa*

**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 birthdaymonth, 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 (Mary Gordon).
4. 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.*
5. 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 \$41.00/person** (Tax & Gratuity incl.)

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Meal (E / V)	Comment

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

**Please make the check payable to MOAS**

and mail to:

**MARY GORDON**

**8208 Deerbrook Circle, Sarasota, FL 34238-4382**

Questions? (941) 923-2302 or email: [JMKPL@aol.com](mailto:JMKPL@aol.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.

Give 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



APRIL MAY 2026



DATE	EVENT	TIME
Monday, April 6	MOAS/SMOF Board Meeting - Meadows Lifestyle & Wellness Building	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 8	MEET & GREET - GRILLSMITH - Details on Page 9	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 12	MOAS Annual Picnic - Phillippi Estate Park - Details on Page 10	1:00 p.m.
Friday, April 17	MOAS Luncheon - Michaels on East - Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches	11:30 a.m.
Saturday, April 25	YAHOO: Sunset Gathering at Siesta Beach - Details on Page 10	6:00 p.m.
Monday, May 4	MOAS/SMOF Board Meeting - Meadows Lifestyle & Wellness Building	2:00 p.m.
Sunday May 10	 MOTHERS DAY 	
Friday, May 15	MOAS Luncheon - Michaels on East – Scholarship Awards Luncheon	11:30 a.m.
Monday, May 25	 MEMORIAL DAY 	
Monday, June 1	MOAS/SMOF Board Meeting - Meadows Lifestyle & Wellness Building	11:30 a.m.

Dear Member,

You will be receiving the 2026 Member Directory within the next few days.

The Directory does not include members who had not paid dues by March 15, 2026, although members received the initial application, reminders in the Breeze newsletter, as well as personal emails and phone calls.

Contact information for members submitting their dues after the cutoff and new members will be provided in the Breeze newsletter

Please let me know if you had an address or phone change that is not reflected in the Directory and a correction will be printed in a later Breeze.

Thank you

Len Friedlander [lensrq223@gmail.com](mailto:lensrq223@gmail.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](http://www.sarasotamoaa.com) or *blog* [sarasotamoaa.blogspot.com](http://sarasotamoaa.blogspot.com)