



DRUMBEAT

April 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS



Board Meeting	Apr 8, 2020
Lunch Meeting	Apr 22, 2020
Board Meeting	May 13, 2020
Lunch Meeting	May 27, 2020
Board Meeting	Jun 10, 2020
Lunch Meeting	No Luncheon
Board Meeting	Jul 8, 2020
Lunch Meeting	No Luncheon

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Clearwater Chapter
MOAA Membership

Total Members

Regular	57
Spouses	31
Surviving Spouses	17
Total	105

President's Message



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR APRIL 2020 DRUMBEAT

MOAA and MOWW recently sponsored our Annual Golf Tournament and it was a big success and we gave \$2,000 each, to 5 Pinellas County Schools JROTC Units. Our goal next year will be to raise this amount to \$5,000 each. A special thanks to Steve and Noreen Hodges for their hard work making this tournament a success and to all of you and to our sponsors.

Unfortunately, the COVID -19 Virus will be here a while and the board believed it was best to cancel our luncheon this month. We will monitor the situation and advise if there will be a luncheon next month.

Dave Apt sent the following guidelines from the President:

15 DAYS TO SLOW THE SPREAD

Listen and follow the directions of your STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

If you feel sick stay home. Do not go to work if you are still working. Contact your medical provider.

If your children or grandchildren are sick, keep them at home, do not let them go out. Contact your medical provider.

If someone in your household has tested positive for the coronavirus, keep the entire household at home. Do not go to work or outside. Contact your medical provider.

If you are an older person, stay at home and away from other people.

If you are a person with a serious underlying health condition that can put you at increased risk (for example, a condition that impairs your lung or your heart function or if you have a weakened immune system), stay home and away from people.

DO YOUR PART TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS

Even if you are young, or otherwise healthy, you are at risk and your activities can increase the risk for others. It is critical that you do your part to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Work or engage in schooling from home whenever possible.

Avoid social Gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.

Avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts – Use drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options.

Avoid Discretionary Travel, shopping trips, and social visits.

PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE:

Wash your hands, especially after touching any frequently used item or surface.

Avoid touching your face.

Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.

Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible especially your phone.

You have all seen the above and heard them on the TV, but we all must work together to stop the spread of this virus. Whatever I can do to reinforce these items I will. I hope to see you all at our next meeting.

**Get Well
Soon**

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 non-partisan. The advertisements that appear in this publication also do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am at the Clearwater Country Club by President Bob Behm. Those present stood, faced the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Bob Behm, Sandy Behm, Jane Belson, Norm Belson, Pat Hughes, Jim Souders, Steve Hodges, Jeff Doll.

Secretary's Report: The February 2020 minutes were prepared by Sandy Behm. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes as read: and was approved by the Board.

Treasurer's Report: Jane Belson presented the Treasurer's report. Checking Account \$22,236.53 Charitable Account \$6,607.32 for a **TOTAL** \$28,843.85. A motion was made by Pat Hughes and seconded by Norm Belson to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and was approved by the Board.

Membership Report: Rob Risberg emailed Bob that there are 106 total members a net gain of 1 from last month as we gained 3 and lost 2. There are 57 regular members gain of 1, Surviving Spouse members 17 no change, spouse members no change.

Programs Report: Bob contacted Dan Perkins he is all set for the March Luncheon.

Drumbeat Report: Jim Souders stated that he started the April Drumbeat and is waiting for the minutes and Presidents report to complete it.

Web Report: Rob added the statement to the Home Page of the Website – the Clearwater Chapter is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters are non -partisan.

Spouse/Surviving Spouse Report: Louisa Dykstra - no report

Members in Distress Report: Bob Behm Sent a get-well letter to June Schnepf who is recovering from a Herniated Disc and was in the Palm Garden Rehab Facility.

ROTC Scholarship: Steve reported that the golf tournament went well. If we do this again, we will have to start earlier to get more sponsors. Our goal is to net \$40,000 or \$5000 for each school. We need to form a committee and start by summer to get it going. We need to update the flyers and once we get a date we will contact Bardmoor Country Club with a date.

Jane Belson made a motion that we move \$10,000 into the Charitable account from the checking account. Jim seconded the motion and the Board approved it.

Legislative Liaison: Bob received an email from Dave Apt on guidance on the Coronavirus and some updates on new proposed legislation from Congressman Gus Bilirakis. He shared this with the Board.

Old Business: – Still waiting for a reply from the State on the Articles of Incorporation, hope you all had a chance to look over the handout that Bob passed out at the last meeting. We need to do apply for tax exempt status once we are incorporated. We also need to get liability insurance as soon as possible.

New Business: After the last luncheon there were several emails sent to Jane and Bob about the service and the food. The food has not been good for the last few months, Jane spoke with Rebecca and Rebecca said that the food tasted fine to her. We need to speak with her and see how we can correct this problem. The club has always been good with us and we don't want to have to change locations. Steve is also going to speak to Rebecca about the other organizations he brings there to ensure the food is better. After he speaks to her, Bob, Jane and Pat will also speak to her.

Bob spoke to Noreen Hodges and she agreed to do the baskets for our Pearl Harbor event. He told her once she got them completed to let us know the cost and we will reimburse her. She also sent him the flyers that we have used in the past for the event.

Bob downloaded a list of prospective members in our area from the MOAA website which is updated each month. Last month he sent out 21 welcome letters and emails and we picked up 3 new members. There were only 5 new names this month and Bob will reach out to them.

We paid our dues to FL Council based on our membership as of 31 DEC 2019 which was 103 members. It was .75 x 103 = \$77.25.

Bob sent out a letter to our 7 members that receive their drumbeats by mail reminding them about their dues. He got one returned as wrong address, Helen Lowden. Jane sent out the drumbeats that had to be mailed out for March.

Steve and Bob have attended the City of Largo planning meeting for their Memorial Day event on last Monday. Largo will also be doing a Veterans Day event again this year.

Bob will start working on the MOAA Level of Excellence Award.

Jane submitted an invoice for ink for \$68.46, a motion was made by Jeff Doll and seconded by Jim Souders to pay it. All approved.

Any other New Business?

With all business concluded a motion to adjourn was made by Steve Hodges and seconded by Norm Belson and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am

Upcoming Speakers:

MAR – Dan Perkins – Songs and Stories for Soldiers

APR - Shawn Rasmussen - USAA REP

CHAPTER NEWS

Help is Needed

As the COVID-19 Virus and the resulting trying times continue, many of our fellow citizens are struggling as a result of job loss at restaurants, bars, cleaning services, and numerous other businesses which have been forced to close or drastically curtail operations as a result of government order. Please keep fellow Americans in your thoughts and prayers. For those of us who have the means and may be looking for ways to help our less fortunate neighbors during their financial crisis, please consider giving to local charities (Metropolitan Ministries, Samaritan's Purse, and others) or simply support those local businesses hardest hit by mandatory shutdowns/curtailments by ordering take-out or home delivered food from local restaurants (several delivery services listed below). **In MOAA, we never stop serving!**

Eat and Support Local Restaurants

With grocery stores short of nearly everything and restaurants closed except for takeout, many of us are turning to delivery by online services. There are several available, some after downloading their app. Some charge a membership fee and almost all will charge some kind of delivery fee that may include a tip. They include:

Uber Eats - Requires an Uber account and will use the card on that account to pay the restaurant, add that to the trip charge which varies depending upon distance to your home from the restaurant. Download the Uber Eats app and log in with your Uber information. It's that easy. If you are familiar with the ride-share app already, this will feel like a familiar friend. Like the other apps this has an option for no-contact delivery.

In the wake of the coronavirus, Uber Eats has announced it is waiving delivery fees for customers and that the food delivery service is allowing restaurants to have daily payments as opposed to the weekly payments that had been done in the past.

Grubhub - Grubhub helps you find and order food from wherever you are. How it works: you type in an address, we tell you the restaurants that deliver to that locale as well as showing you droves of pickup restaurants near you. Want to be more specific? Search by cuisine, restaurant name or menu item.

DoorDash - This is the most popular food delivery app out there thanks to the large selection of restaurant options that it offers. DoorDash has announced it is setting the default delivery option to no contact and is waiving delivery fees.

Instacart - Instacart is an online grocery delivery service company that works with local stores to deliver groceries to your door. Instacart costs \$7.99 for one-hour delivery or \$5.99 for two-hour or more delivery (you can select one-hour time windows), though the price can increase at particularly busy times. For free two-hour delivery on orders \$35+, you can pay a \$149 yearly membership. A tip gets added on automatically.

Advice from Army & Air Force Exchange Service

How you can help keep military communities safe from COVID-19

Dear Soldiers, Airmen, military family members, retirees and Veterans,

It has been an honor to serve you amid the global disruption caused by COVID-19. As the virus spreads, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is taking precautions to protect the health and safety of our Nation's heroes. But we need your help.

Studies show that paper money and coins can harbor bacteria and viruses long after they change hands. We are asking Exchange shoppers to help in the fight against the transmission of COVID-19 through increased reliance on bank-issued credit and debit, MILITARY STAR® or gift cards instead of cash. Please note that cash-back and check-cashing transactions may be unavailable during this time.

While some Exchanges may transition to a card-only environment as local needs dictate, we ask that shoppers minimize the use of cash regardless of location. Customers in need of cash transactions or services can contact their local Exchange to inquire about the status of such transactions at their nearest location.

On behalf of the Exchange, thank you for joining us in the fight against the spread of COVID-19. We are in this together!

Sincerely,

Jim Jordan

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Wednesday April 22, 2020 MOAA Monthly Luncheon

In keeping with the social distancing guidelines issued by the President and the CDC, the April 2020 luncheon is cancelled. The Chapter Officers continue to monitor all developments in local, state, and national virus response efforts and will make decisions regarding future luncheons/other events as the situation develops. We will keep chapter members informed by Drumbeat, email Blast and Chapter website.



Drumbeat Editor and Web Master Receive MOAA Communications Award

MOAA has announced that both the Drumbeat Editor and Web Master received the MOAA Communications Award.

Drumbeat Editor Jim Souders - Four Star

Web Master Rob Risberg - Five Star

In Memory of Dot Crawford

Dot Crawford, spouse of John C. "Jack" Crawford, 1st Lt. U.S. Army Signal Corps. passed away on Mar 20, 2020 peacefully after a lengthy illness. Dot had recently celebrated her 90th birthday on Feb 4. She is survived by her husband Jack to whom she was married for 66 years, 3 sons, 2 grandsons, and 4 great grandchildren. Dot was a stay-at-home Mom who loved to cook and travel.

It's Time to End China's Dominance Over Global Pharmaceutical Production

The coronavirus outbreak continues to dominate the news, with media outlets mixing coverage of global market impacts alongside the growing fears of how this virus will affect our physical, social, and financial lives.

Just below that layer of coverage are concerns about what the response to this virus is doing to the global inventory of medical supplies and pharmaceuticals, and whether U.S.-controlled resources are enough to meet national demand. MOAA addressed China's dominance as the global leader in medication production back in January 2019, with award-winning medical author Rosemary Gibson. [Her article for MOAA](#) outlined the security threat posed by U.S. dependence on Chinese drugs and the decades-long decline in domestic production; these themes are expanded in her book, [*China Rx: Exposing the Risks of America's Dependence on China for Medicine*](#).

Click on: [Stop China's Dominance](#)

MOAA Urges TRICARE to Waive Early Medication Refill Limits

With the COVID-19 situation rapidly evolving, MOAA members are understandably concerned about TRICARE coverage related to the virus. MOAA has reached out to TRICARE officials urging them to enhance communication with beneficiaries and reconsider TRICARE's prescription refill policy in light of guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and policy updates by Medicare and commercial plans allowing early prescription refills.

Click on: [Tricare Meds](#)

Beware of Scams Connected to the Coronavirus Crisis

In a time of uncertainty, there is a heightened risk of falling victim to scams concocted by those with ill intent. For cybercriminals and scammers, the coronavirus crisis creates an attentive audience who may be willing to accept false information in order to protect themselves from perceived risks.

Arm yourself not only against the virus, but against other threats, by learning how to detect them first with tips from the Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID).

Know How Officials Operate

Knowing how legitimate organizations do business can give you a leg up on anyone who attempts to pull the wool over your eyes. Health officials you've never contacted will not email you or come to your door. If this happens, contact your local police department immediately.

Click on: [Beware](#)

Military Hospitals to Cancel Appointments, Shift to Telehealth in COVID-19 Response

Military treatment facility patients will likely see some of their scheduled appointments canceled and moved to telehealth. Instead as Defense Health Agency (DHA) officials look to "scrub" the schedule and clear the way for coronavirus patients.

"What we have asked the military treatment facilities [MTF] to do ... is to go in and what we call 'scrub the templates,'" Regina Julian, who oversees coordination between the DHA and the military services, said during a Facebook-based town hall with Pentagon health officials. "That means look out forward at our scheduled appointments and see what can be done virtually."

Patients whose MTF appointments are canceled will receive a notice and a phone call, she said.

Click on: [Appointments](#)

Golf Tournament Photo — No Luncheon Photos Due to Cancellation



MOAA members (L) Steve Hodges, Dave Mason, visiting guest, Jeff Mason, and Rob Risberg enjoying the tournament.



Dunedin High School, JROTC Honor Guard performed to start the tournament.



Tournament 2nd place winners JROTC Instructors: Jim Facinelli, Eric Pless, Joe Paight, Kirk Kumigaj



The day of the golf tournament, JROTC High School Senior Instructors: (L) Commander, Jim Facinelli, Dunedin High School, LTCol Kirk Kumigaj, Clearwater High School, LTC Christopher Tompkins, Gibbs High School and Mr. Michael Vigue, Principal Boca Ciega High School received a check in the amount of \$2,000 proceeds from the event to further enhance their school's JROTC programs.

SALUTING OUR FINE PATRIOTIC ADVERTISERS

You are encouraged to patronize our patriotic advertisers and to be sure to mention you are an 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 to let them know you suggested it. Please send a testimonial about the establishment to the Drumbeat Editor at jim_souders@hotmail.com to be included in the Drumbeat and show appreciation for their support.



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>



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