



DRUMBEAT

February 2020




Board Meeting	Feb 12, 2020
Lunch Meeting	Feb 26, 2020
Board Meeting	Mar 11, 2020
Lunch Meeting	Mar 25, 2020
Board Meeting	Apr 8, 2020
Lunch Meeting	Apr 22, 2020
Board Meeting	May 13, 2020
Lunch Meeting	May 27, 2020

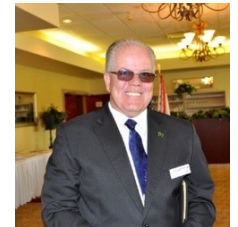
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Clearwater Chapter MOAA Membership

	Total Members
Regular	56
Spouses	30
Surviving Spouses	17
Total	103

President's Message



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY 2020 DRUMBEAT

Once again, another year has passed, and we have had our Installation of Officers. I want to thank Skip Harnett for swearing in all our officers both old and new. I want to thank all the officers who stayed on and the new ones who stepped forward. Our new officers are Jeffrey (Jeff) Doll, BG USA Ret - 1st Vice President, Henry (Sonny) Wong. CAPT USN Ret - Backup Treasurer, Louisa Dykstra - Surviving Spouse Liaison.

We are pleased to learn Norm Belson's knee surgery was a success he and is recovery at home.

Please help me welcome our newest members Basil Read, Capt. USN Ret and Mac Fossett, LTC USAF Ret. As I mentioned at the luncheon, we are all recruiters. It's your chapter and if you know some retired or active officers ask them to join. If you know any surviving spouses, ask them to join as well.

As I mentioned at the luncheon, we must start paying attention to our medical benefits. There are cuts planned in both medications and staffing. There was no increase TRICARE for Life enrollment fees or deductibles in 2020; however, several previously scheduled fee increases in the FY 2020 defense bill, took effect Jan. 1:

Enrollment fees for retirees who entered service prior to Jan. 1, 2018. TRICARE Prime: \$300 (single)/\$600 (family), up from \$297/\$594; TRICARE Select: No fee.

Enrollment fees for retirees who entered service after Jan. 1, 2018. TRICARE Prime: \$366 (single)/\$732 (family), up from \$360/\$720; TRICARE Select: \$471 (single)/\$942 (family), up from \$462/\$924.

Retail pharmacy fees. \$13 for 30-day supply of generic, \$33 for brand name, \$60 for non-formulary (up from \$11, \$28, and \$53, respectively).

Mail-order pharmacy fees: \$10 for a 90-day supply of generic, \$29 for brand name, \$60 for non-formulary (up from \$7, \$24 and \$53, respectively).

Although, there are no fees for 30-90-day supplies for generic and brand-name drugs from military treatment facilities (MTFs). [Non-formulary prescriptions](#) are generally not available at MTFs. Anyone using MacDill AFB knows how difficult it is to get your scripts. In the past, if you called in the script you could go to the window to get your refill. Now you must go to the Main Building, drop off the new/refill script off, go back to the base the next day to pick it up at the drive thru. Without any advance warning, they are routinely dropping what they had covered, such as Insulin, Nexium and Bystolic blood pressure medication. Additional items may be dropped in the future. If you have experienced such issues, MOAA wants to hear from you. Contact our representatives and senators to make them aware of these issues.

At the Luncheon I mentioned our fundraiser for JROTC scholarships this year is a Golf Tournament March 7th at the Bardmoor Golf & Tennis Club. Tournament proceeds will be split between 5 Pinellas HSJ ROTC's, MOAA and MOWW. If you know of any organizations or companies that may be willing to make donation, contact Steve Hodges Places where we might frequent such as restaurants, etc. should also be solicited for donations or to sponsor a hole. In the past we have been asked by members who do not golf if they could make a cash donation and an anonymous donor will match up to \$2500. Contact Steve if you wish to donate. March will be here soon, and this is our only fundraiser for the year. See the flyer in the January edition of your drumbeat.

**Get Well
Soon**

Please continue to pray for long time members Violet Smith and Keith Kurber who passed away recently as well as for Norm Belson who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.

MOAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES - January 8, 2020

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 Dole and Louisa Dykstra

Secretary's Report: Reviewed the December minutes 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 \$ 21,163.64 Charitable Account \$ 7,711.32 for a **TOTAL \$28,874.96**. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and was approved by the Board.

Membership Report: Rob Risberg sent an email and Bob reported that there were 103 total members, 56 regular members, 17 Surviving spouse members and 30 spouse members. No change from last month.

Programs Report: See Below (Upcoming Speakers)

Drumbeat Report: Jim Souders reported that it will be out this week.

Web Report: Nothing to report at this time.

Spouse/Surviving Spouse Report: Louisa Dykstra has nothing to report.

Members in Distress Report: Bob Behm stated to keep Norm Belson in our thoughts and prayers, as he is having knee surgery on January 22nd.

ROTC Scholarship: Steve Hodges updated us on the golf tournament and that all schools are hard at work getting things done. Steve will send out an updated flyer this week. He will also bring some flyers to the luncheon. Steve stated that next year he will have to start early to get sponsors for the 2021 tournament. He would like to try to get USAA to sponsor the whole thing.

Legislative Liaison: Dave Apt – No Report.

Old Business: Bob reported that he delivered the Christmas gifts to the office and the staff at the Clearwater Country Club and they were very please to get them and all said to say, "Thank you."

New Business: Jane will not be at the Jan luncheon; she ordered the cake and Bob and Pat will pick up the cake. Sandy and Pat will take care of the reception table at the luncheon.

We will wait to file for a Not for profit Article of Incorporation until Bob comes back from the conference.

Skip is all set for the Installation.

Bob received an email from FCOC President requesting our chapter put in a chapter ad in the 2020 convention magazine. A motion was made by Steve Hodges and seconded by Jim Souders to put a quarter page ad for \$75.00 in the magazine. All approved.

Bob received an email that the 2020 FCOC convention will be at the Palm Beach Marriott Gardens hotel in Jupiter FL from May 28-31, 2020.

With all business being concluded a motion to adjourn was made by Jim Souders and seconded by Norm Belson and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

Upcoming Speakers

JAN – Bob - Recap of year – Installation of Officers

CHAPTER NEWS

Please Note that 2020 Chapter dues must be paid by March, 2020 and can be paid at the luncheon or by check to Jane Belson at:

1824 Northwood Drive, Clearwater, FL 33764

Lt. Orland (Bill) W. Carroza at Henri Chapelle Cemetery, Liege, Belgium 1947

David Mason received the following was received From Doris Carroza:

Hi David, I have a story for you. My youngest son, Bob, 66 years, is a retired Navy Commander, lives in Bremerton, WA. He is traveling in Europe for a month and went to the Henri Chapelle Cemetery in Liege, Belgium. While there he watched a 10 minute Video Loop several times because he noticed his Dad, my husband was in it. He snapped these pictures from the video. My husband, although in the infantry, was in charge of the cemetery in 1947, he also worked at the cemetery in Luxembourg. My son knew a little about him working in Luxembourg as Bill went there on one of the 50th anniversary tours but Bob was not aware that he was also in Liege. So he was really surprised to see him on the film. Bill was active for many years with the Clearwater TROA. My son was really surprised to see him. Bill died suddenly in 2002. Their job in graves registration was to identify bodies and to contact families to see if they wanted the bodies returned to the United States or to be permanently buried in Europe. Some asked for the body to be moved to Luxembourg where General Patton was buried. They also searched the French countryside for bodies that were buried by the citizens. So these are the pictures then and now. All those graves, makes you think, I imagine many were 18 & 19 years old. I was in high school during the war and they drafted seniors out of high school as soon as they turned 18, didn't let them stay to graduate. But they were awarded diplomas. Doris Car-



roza --



Wednesday February 26, 2020 MOAA Monthly Luncheon

Join us for Lunch at the Clearwater Country Club; 525 N Betty Lane, Clearwater. Directions: from Drew Street turn North it'll be the last right turn before the railroad tracks, from Palmetto Street turn South it'll be the first left after the tracks. **COST:** \$20 per person. Please make check payable to Clearwater Chapter MOAA . Meal selections (if reservation is NOT made On-line) are to be made by calling Jane Belson: (727) 535-9151



NLT 12:00 Feb 21, 2020. Cancellations must be in **NLT 12:00** Feb 24, 2020.

You are encouraged to use the Chapter Web Site to make reservations and meal

selections: Click: Reservation Note: the link goes hot right after email notification of the luncheon.

Menu:

Hot: Caesar Salad, Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Glazed Carrots, Chef's Choice of Dessert

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

For Gluten Free other dietary needs, contact Jane Belson.

Highly Recommended Reading

We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of American Nurses Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese by Elizabeth M. Norman

"This is a gripping book. Elizabeth Norman presents a war story in which the main characters never kill one of the enemy, or even shoot at him, but are nevertheless heroes. . . . First on Bataan, then moved to Corregidor, they were under almost constant shell fire, were always hungry, close to starvation, had horrendous diseases to deal with despite a shortage or even a complete lack of proper medicines, getting little or no sleep, nothing in the way of recreation--yet they were a true band of angels, inspiring all the men whom they were there to help. In a squalid prison camp, they remained giants, despite their small size. . . . They were the bravest of the brave, who endured unspeakable pain and torture. Americans today should thank God we had such women." --Stephen E. Ambrose

Available from Amazon **Click on: [We Band of Angels](#)**

TRICARE Expands List of Drugs It Won't Cover

Thousands of TRICARE beneficiaries are losing coverage for their medication as more drugs are dropped from the list of those approved for TRICARE coverage.

Drugs that DHA categorizes as "Tier 4/non-covered" are excluded from coverage under TRICARE. These Tier 4 drugs cannot be obtained at pharmacies at military treatment facilities. They also aren't available through the TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery Program.

The first round of Tier 4/non-covered drugs was announced in August 2019 and included Glumetza, Vimovo, and Lexette. Excluding these drugs had little impact on beneficiaries since very few TRICARE patients were using these prescription drugs and alternative agents were available for them.

However, nearly 19,000 beneficiaries taking Dexilant to treat gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) were impacted when that drug was dropped from TRICARE coverage effective Nov. 28, 2019.

Click on: [Drugs Not Covered By Tricare](#)

Benefits at Risk as Congress Advances Military Health System Reform Measures

Despite concerns from advocacy groups, the recently enacted NDAA indicates Congress is not backing down on its vision for MHS Reform.

The legislation's joint explanatory statement includes the following message to the Department of Defense:

Over the past four years, Congress has enacted several provisions designed to guide the Department of Defense in implementing a major reform of the military health system to make it more effective, efficient, and less costly. ... The conferees expect the Secretary of Defense to fully implement the law and to accomplish these critically important reforms expeditiously.

Click on: [Military Health System Reform](#)

Department of Veterans Affairs Website Offers Much Valuable Information To Veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs website offers a wealth of information helpful to veterans regarding benefits and services including:

1. Healthcare
2. Disability
3. Education
4. Recreation
5. Records
6. And many others

Click on: [Veterans Affairs](#)

Surviving Spouse Leadership Opportunities

In 2020, MOAA is electing a new class for its board of directors, which governs and oversees the operations of the association. The 12-member class will begin its term in October.

Surviving spouses of eligible officers are encouraged to apply for a director position. In fact, to maintain the required service representation, the incoming class must include at least one surviving spouse.

Interested surviving spouses can check the link below for more details, including a fillable PDF application form.

Click on: [MOAA Board of Directors](#)

Changes Coming to Your Benefits

Numerous changes to benefits are coming as a result of the FY 2020 National Defense Authorization Act including Pay Raise and Tricare fee increases.

Click on: [Benefit Changes](#)

Luncheon Photos



Board of Directors Swearing In Ceremony



Chapter Directors Swearing In Celebratory Cake



LTC Bob Behm proudly presents National Level of Excellence Award to chapter members



Louisa Dykstra, Sandy Behm, Pat Hughes



Ellen Rodnite, LTC Steve Hodges, MAJ Jack Rodnite



Chaplain CAPT Stan Beach gives the invocation

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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Military Officers Association of America

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