

**2019 FCOC Convention  
All Hands Breakfast  
Hosted by Tampa Chapter  
June 22, 2019**

**PROGRAM**

**Master of Ceremonies: COL Lewis VanDyke, USA (Ret)  
Convention Chairman**

**Presentation of the Colors  
Assisting Veterans of America Support Team (AVAST)**

**Pledge of Allegiance  
The Assembled**

**Invocation  
LCDR Terry Robertson, Chaplain Corps, USN (Ret)  
FCOC Chaplain**

**Welcome & Introduction of Safety Harbor Mayor  
COL Carol Zieres, USA (Ret)  
President, Tampa Chapter**

**Welcome  
Mayor Joe Ayoub**

**Breakfast is Served**

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
LTC Jim Griffin, USA (Ret)**

**Keynote Speaker  
RADM Michael J. Silah  
Director, NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps  
&  
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations**



**RADM Michael J. Silah, NOAA**

Rear Admiral (RADM) Michael J. Silah serves as the Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Commissioned Officer Corps (NOAA Corps) and NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO), the operational arm of NOAA, and is responsible for the operation of NOAA's fleet of research ships and aircraft as well as commissioned NOAA officers and civilian personnel.

Commissioned into the United States Navy in 1992, he served in Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) as the squadron's safety officer, completing three deployments to Southeast Asia and the Persian Gulf. He also served in Naval Force Aircraft Test Squadron (FORCE) before transferring to the NOAA Corps in 2002.

RADM Silah previously served as Commanding Officer of NOAA's Aircraft Operations Center (AOC). Under his command, AOC improved execution to over 90% and flew over 6,000 flight hours. His team was recognized with Department of Commerce Silver and Bronze awards, a NOAA Unit Citation, and the Safety Management System Level 3 award--the highest possible distinction. He also led AOC during the relocation from MacDill AFB to a new facility in Lakeland, Florida.

Earlier assignments include: Chief of Staff of National Centers for Environmental Prediction, Chief of Staff of OMAO, and aide-de-camp to the NOAA Administrator. RADM Silah has flown over 3,000 flight hours in the P-3, including over 1,500 hours as pilot-in-command, over 500 hours of Navy flight test, and nearly 150 hurricane penetrations.

RADM Silah holds a degree in economics from Duke and an MPA from Harvard. His awards include the Department of Commerce Gold Medal, NOAA Corps Meritorious Service Medal, NOAA Corps Commendation Medals, and NOAA Corps Achievement Medals. He is an active member in the prestigious Explorers Club, a group dedicated to promoting scientific exploration.

