

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



COL ZIERRES

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving! As we prepare to celebrate the season of light (Christmas and Chanukah), I want to take this opportunity to reflect upon another year that is fast drawing to a close. During our November luncheon, I shared with chapter members some of the accomplishments that MOAA National outlined at the annual meeting that I attended in Phoenix last month. The big highlight of the meeting was the Tampa Chapter was one of 167 chapters to be awarded the FIVE-Star Level of Excellence Award for 2017! MOAA has enjoyed a very successful year in 2018 as a preeminent advocacy group for the military in the nation.

President and CEO LtGen Dana Atkins spoke about the key MOAA priorities met in the FY2019 NDAA spending Bill such as the 2.6 percent troop pay raise, fully funded service end strength increases, no Tricare fee increases, and the VA appropriations bill that resulted in the largest, fully funded VA spending Bill in history; providing more than \$197 billion for health and benefits programs as well as over \$86 billion in discretionary (medical-related) programs and over \$110 billion in mandatory benefit payments. The key provisions of the bill are articulated on page 16 of the November Military Officer magazine. He also spoke of the need to accelerate migration to the digital world to keep our association relevant and members informed. Community engagement and outreach through the MOAA foundation charitable program has enabled councils and chapters to make an effective impact on their communities using qualifying grant monies.

Closer to home, looking at some of the highlights of this past year, the Tampa Chapter has made and continues to make a tremendous impact on the Tampa Bay community through our charity, Operation Helping Hand (OPHH). No one does more for the injured service members and their families. Since 2004, OpHH has raised and distributed over \$2.5 million (including our chapter Golf Tournament that raised over \$20K for OpHH in March 2018) to assist the active duty wounded and their families at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital (JAHVA) in Tampa, Florida. Especially noteworthy, last April OpHH donated \$50K to JAHVH for the creation of a Virtual Reality Room, which leverages digital technology in the treatment of patients suffering from PTSD and traumatic brain injury. Another key point I shared at the November luncheon was the example of the generosity by Tampa Chapter members who year after year give money to our annual scholarship drive. In 2018, we awarded four, \$1500 scholarships to eligible college bound students and last Christmas, we collected \$898 for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tot program. We also recognized excellence in academic achievement for several Jr ROTC High School students through the MOAA Jr ROTC Awards program, many of whom have served as our honor guard at previous luncheons. MOAA is making a difference in our local community by support given to Operation Traffic Signal, a petition that collected over 700 signatures to raise awareness of a very dangerous intersection near JAHVA and resulted in the funding for a much needed traffic signal. This past month, we celebrated Veterans Day at the annual JAHVH Veteran's Day parade and partnered with the St. Petersburg College Tarpon Springs Campus to host the 6th Annual Star Spangled Art Show, showcasing some beautiful artwork all done by military veteran artists. This is the season of giving and we will do it all over again at our upcoming Christmas luncheon and many other events to follow in the New Year, including the honor of serving MOAA as the host chapter of the Florida Council of Chapters Convention in June 2019. It has been a great year for the Tampa Chapter and I wish you and yours a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

### DATES TO OBSERVE IN DECEMBER

**DECEMBER 7—PEARL HARBOR DAY**—National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, to remember and honor the 2,403 citizens of the United States who were killed in the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

**DECEMBER 25—CHRISTMAS**—Christmas is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed primarily on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world. A feast central to the Christian liturgical year, it is preceded by the season of Advent or the Nativity Fast and initiates the season of Christmastide, which historically in the West lasts twelve days and culminates on Twelfth Night; in some traditions, Christmas Day is a public holiday in many of the world's nations, is celebrated religiously by a majority of Christians, as well as culturally by many non-Christians, and forms an integral part of the holiday season.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**—Mesopotamia (Iraq) instituted the concept of celebrating the new year in 2000 BC and celebrated new year around the time of the vernal equinox, in mid-March. The early Roman calendar designated March 1 as the new year. The calendar had just ten months, beginning with March. That the new year once began with the month of March is still reflected in some of the names of the months. September through December, our ninth through twelfth months, were originally positioned as the seventh through tenth months.

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### OPERATION HELPING HAND

### SERVICE NEWS

### LUNCHEON MENU:

DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS & CHANUKAH ROLLS & BUTTER CAESAR SALAD HAM/ROAST BEEF – DEPENDS ON PRICING POTATO PANCAKES LEMON ZEST BROCCOLI ASSORTED PIES & DESSERTS

## Upcoming Events

### OUR BOARD WILL MEET AT

1000 on:  
-06 DEC  
-03 JAN

### LUNCHEON MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT 1130

AT SURF'S EDGE ON:  
-13 DEC  
-10 JAN

### PUBLICATION DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY 2019 ISSUE IS 26 DECEMBER 2018

**PRESIDENT:**

COL Carol Zieres USA RET  
(727) 793-0568 Cell (727) 366-1045  
caroLzieres@yahoo.com

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRES./PROG  
CHAIRMAN/AND CHAIRMAN OF  
OPERATION HELPING HAND**

LTC Jim Griffin USA RET  
(813) 785-0552 tigerpaw65@verizon.net

**RESERVATION CHAIR:**

LTC Jeanne Richard USAF RET  
(813) 948-7539  
lutzgranny89@gmail.com

**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT AND  
EDITOR, THE RETROSPECT:**

CAPT Don Dvornik USN RET  
(727) 441-2051  
DSDVORNIK2@msn.com

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:**

COL William Schneider USA RET  
(813) 977-2572 Cell (813) 300-3202  
GeoWillyl@aol.com

**SECRETARY/DATA BASE MANAGER/  
PHOTOGRAPHER:**

CW2 Tom South USA RET  
(813) 975-5025 tsouth@uvresident.com

**TREASURER:**

LTCOL Ken Martin USMCR RET  
(813) 831-4426 martinkb@verizon.net

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

MAJ Dolores Incremona USAF RET  
(813) 839-6960  
AFOCEANLADY@verizon.net

**LEGAL ADVISOR:**

Former LT William Mitchell USN  
(813) 963-5098 Cell: (813) 679-1217  
mitchlaw@askmitch.net

**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS:**

Col Charles J. Dalcourt, USA  
(254) 383-1796  
charles.j.dalcourt@gmail.com

**SENIOR CHAPLAIN:**

Chaplain (COL) Bernard Lieving USA  
RET (813) 254-5044  
bliavingjr@aol.com

**SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN AND  
FLAG OFFICER LIAISON:**

MAJ GEN James Jones USAF RET  
(813) 975-9156 jamesj987@aol.com

**COCHAIRS FCOC CONVENTION:**

COL Lewis VanDyke USA  
(703) 984-9289  
vandykerl@verizon.net  
LTC F Douglas Andrews  
(813) 857-7089  
dougandrews@verizon.net

**SURF'S EDGE CLUB LIAISON:**

LT COL Richard Siegman USAF RET  
(813) 681-9601 dicknick2@msn.com



CAPT DVORNIK  
EDITOR

THE RETROSPECT is electronically published monthly by members of the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers' Association of America (MOAA), P.O. Box 6383, MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33608-0383 and is viewed on line at <http://www.moaatampa.org/>.

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**FOR THE 13TH TIME, THE NATIONAL CHRISTMAS TREE  
IS CHOSEN FROM NORTH CAROLINA**

By Chris Mulcahy



The National Christmas tree is on its way to be displayed in the Blue Room of the White House for the 96th annual National Christmas Tree Lighting!

Earlier this morning (November 14th) Larry Smith the owner of Mountain Top Fraser Fir hung a bow on his Nationally winning Fraser Fir tree in preparations for the big day. There are thousands of trees on his farm but little did he know, that one he planted himself decades ago, would become a dream come true. One of the greatest days of this farmers life, looked like many others... starting in darkness... "This is like winning the Super Bowl," Larry Smith rejoiced!

Larry Smith is a Christmas tree farmer much like his father was here in Newland, NC. He's worked on this farm since he was a teenager and today awards years of hard work. "The best part I would say is for my kids and grand kids that's what I'm looking for," smiles Smith.

Before cameras and multiple reporters surrounded him asking him about the 19.5 foot Fraser Fir or how he planted this tree some 20-25 years ago (which was estimated to be 22 years old after counting the rings),

<https://www.13newsnow.com/article/news/local/north-carolina/its-a-cinderella-story-north-carolina-christmas-tree-chosen-for-the-white-house/291-614655978>



**LEVEL OF  
EXCEL-  
LENCE  
AWARD**

Chapter President Zieres receives the LOE award from Lt.Gen Edward Hanlon, USMC (Ret) and LtGen Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret)

(Board, continued from page 2)

**ID CARD/BASE ENTRY:**

Maj John Massey USAF RET  
(813) 886-1938 johnmoaa@aol.com

**PERSONAL AFFAIRS:**

Maj Dick Tinsley USMC RET  
(813) 886-2169 rctinsley1@aol.com

**SICK CALL CHAIRMAN:**

CW3 Bill Farrow USA RET  
(813) 884-7823 SAF1929@aol.com

**RESERVE LIAISON:**

LTC Robert Sawallesh USA RET  
(813) 654-3900 pentagonmaverick@aol.

**ROTC:**

Lt Col Ken Martin USMCR RET  
(813) 831-4426 martinkb@verizon.net

**SENIOR FORMER OFFICERS LIAISON/  
ASSISTANT JR ROTC/ ROTC LIAISON:**

FORMER 1LT James G. Kalemeris USAF  
(813) 933-5493 CELL: (814) 924-5132

**WEB MANAGER:**

Capt Nada Mishrik USAF (404) 210-8494  
ngmgolf@gmail.com

**JUNIOR CHAPLAIN:**

CDR Richard Helveston, CHC, USNR RET  
(863) 510-5048 rhelveston@tampabay.rr.com

**GOLF TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR:**

Robert Ahern (813) 265-1605

**MOWC PRESIDENT:**

Mrs. Paul (Kathy) Kennett  
(813) 792-7140 rpkenett@earthlink.net

**PHOTOS OF OUR LUNCHEON**





## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

By COL CHARLES J DALCOURT, USA RET

It has been another month full of activity on Capitol Hill. Although the midterm elections have spawned change and focus, MOAA has remained engaged and continues to advocate for key initiatives that are of great importance to its constituency. Please enjoy the following updates.

### Ongoing "Lame Duck" Session

As most know, the elections held in the first week of November allowed the Democrats to reclaim the House majority for the next Congress and the Republicans retain the majority in the Senate. With the elections completed, Congress is now in its final or "lame duck" session to end the year. "Lame duck" describes the period between an election and when the newly elected members of Congress take office, which will occur on January 3, 2019 at noon.

There are several key issues Congress will endeavor to address during this short session. Critical legislation impacting service-members and their families include proposals to: relax enforcement of the Military Lending Act; repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veteran's dependency and indemnity compensation; and to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation. Please take a moment to read about these key issues on MOAA's Legislative Action Center webpage: <http://takeaction.moaa.org/?2>.

Next is another action you'll want to monitor.

### VA Mission Act of 2018

On June 6, 2018, President Donald Trump signed into law the VA Mission Act of 2018 (H.R. 5674: VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018; <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5674>). Sponsored by Representative David "Phil Roe of Tennessee, the bill was written to:

- establish a permanent community care program for veterans;
- establish a commission for making recommendations regarding

the modernization or realignment of facilities of the Veterans Health Administration;

- improve construction of the Department of Veterans Affairs; make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to the home loan program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and for other purposes.

Essentially, this bill is intended to overhaul the current VA system, improve access to VA healthcare, extend the network, and consolidate several programs. A summary of the Senate version (S. 2372: VA Mission Act of 2018) explains the provisions of the bill in greater detail. You can read the Republican Policy Committee's Summary at: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2372/summary>.

MOAA is monitoring the changes associated with the implementation of the VA Mission Act of 2018 and has vowed to keep members informed as updates are available.

Finally, do not forget that the Federal Benefits Open Season is underway.

- FEDVIP- Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program

As a reminder, on December 31, 2018, the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end. Dental and Vision coverage for retirees will be offered under the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP), effective January 1, 2019. Reportedly, more than a quarter million people have enrolled in the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's Program – FEDVIP. The open season for enrollment began on November 12 and ends December 10, 2018.

If you have not enrolled, please do not delay enrolling for your dental and vision coverage. Beneficiaries can determine eligibility, compare plans, and enroll in the plan that best suits your needs at <https://benefeds.com/>.

I hope this information provides insights that are helpful to you. Thanks so much for your membership and even more, your involvement with the Tampa Chapter's activities. The significance of your continued service is unmatched. Thank you for continuing to give back!



MEMBERS OF OUR MOWC AT  
THE NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

**OPERATION HELPING HAND UPDATE**

Submitted by LTC Jim GRIFFIN, USA RET, Chairman



LTC GRIFFIN

OPERATION HELPING HAND DINNER FOR DECEMBER WILL BE HELD ON 20 DECEMBER AT 6:00 AT THE JAMES A HALEY VA HOSPITAL IN THE SCI DINING FACILITY (HERO'S CAFÉ). I hope you will be able to join us for our SPECIAL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER and bring a friend and continue to support us with your time and donations for our active duty wounded and injured and their

families who will be honored. Please come and plan to meet these WARRIORS and their families. You will be a better person- I guarantee it!

Our DECEMBER DINNER (#176) sponsor is our traditional sponsor for this special month, ARMA GLOBAL. They not only sponsor the dinner, but they also provide a special gift for all of the patients attending. We cannot thank ARMA GLOBAL enough for their long time commitment to OPERATION HELPING HAND.

Our caterer for DECEMBER will once again, by special request, be BOB EVANS. They have insured that the CHRISTMAS DINNER will be very special.

A very special thanks to BOOZ ALLEN HAMILTON and all of their wonderful folks who volunteered last month at our NOVEMBER DINNER. A great dinner was provided by the COLUMBIA RESTAURANT. Great food and a full house was a perfect setting to honor our WARRIORS and their families.

As always a special thanks to our tireless volunteers which enables us to consistently provide 96.5% of all of the monies donated to go to our wounded and injured and their families. The strong support of our local business community and their commitment to sponsor our dinner events, golf tournament and provide generous donations throughout the year, along with the individual support we receive from numerous donors every month by way of checks, or on our website (OPEARATIONHELPINGHAND TAMPA.COM) insure that the support of our mission will not be interrupted for as long as our assistance is required.

**OUR TREMEMDOUS GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS MAKE THIS POSSIBLE**



**SENIOR CHAPLAIN (COL) BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET**



LTC (CHAPLAIN) LIEVING

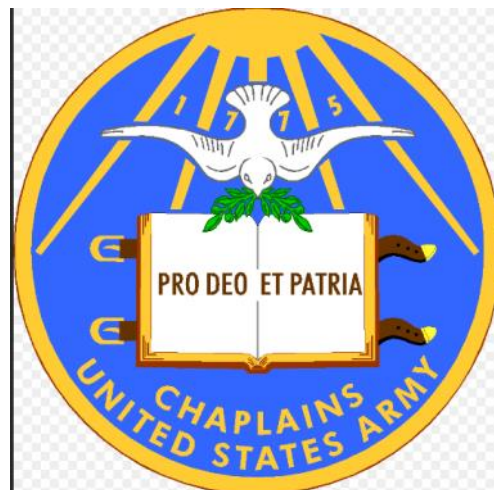
Two weeks ago Cindy and I returned from a seven-day visit to Washington, DC. While there we went to the Holocaust Museum, the Air and Space Museum, the National Cathedral; did the night time tour of DC; walked through Arlington National Cemetery; and, on Veteran's Day we were at the Vietnam Wall for the Veteran's Day Observance (highlighted by the 25th anniversary of the Vietnam Women's Memorial). We went to DC to attend the Army Chaplain Corps Regimental Association 9th Biennial Reunion. The evening of Veteran's Day we attended the 1st Cavalry Division As-

sociation's annual Veteran's Day Dinner. We would have seen much more had we not decided to depart two days earlier than planned to miss the snow, sleet, rain, and wind storm predicted for the area.

One highlight of our trip for me was to see the old (yes, we are all getting older) faces of chaplains, religious activity specialists, and directors of religious education with whom I served over my twenty-seven years. Of course, as always, we were all full of our "war stories" and we enjoyed hearing the catch-me-up-to-date tales. A special time for me was to see my Sergeant Major who served with me in the XVIII Airborne Corps in Desert Shield/Storm and whom I had not seen or talked with in twenty-six years.

A second highlight for me was when we were walking through Fort Myers Post Exchange I began a conversation with a man wearing a 1st Cavalry Division Vietnam veteran cap. The more we gave units, dates, and places; we realized we had been in the same unit, at the same time, and in the same places. He was one of the soldiers I served. I had been his chaplain. The same thing happened at the Cavalry's Veteran's Day Dinner when out of the 150 or so folks there, I connected with another of my Vietnam soldiers.

Those contacts inspired me to get in touch with some friends I have not seen for a while. This holiday season might just be the perfect time for us all to reconnect with folks we have not seen for a long time – family, high school classmates, friends, and especially, those with whom we could share war stories.



**EIGHT CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS AND THEIR HIDDEN MEANINGS**

<https://churchpop.com/2015/08/14/8-ancient-christian-symbols-and-their-hidden-meanings/>



The Staurogram, or Tau-Rho, is a Greek tau (T) combined with a Greek rho (P), and was used in the early church as an abbreviation for the Greek word for cross. The letters also sometimes had a deeper meaning. The tau could symbolize the cross on its own. The rho had the numerical value of 100, which itself could either be a reference to the Greek word for help (which also had the numerical value of 100), or as a reference to Abraham (himself taken as a symbol of the Messiah) because Abraham procreated Isaac when he was 100 years old.



The Ancient Greeks believed that the flesh of peacocks didn't decompose after death, and so peacocks became a symbol of immortality. Early Christians adopted the symbol to represent their belief in eternal life in heaven with God, and was often depicted with the Tree of Life.



Medieval Europeans believed that pelicans were particularly attentive to their young, even to the point of wounding itself and letting its young drink its blood when no food was available. As a result, the pelican became a symbol of Christ's passion, poring out his blood for the forgiveness of sins, as well as the Eucharist.



Ichthys is the Greek word for fish, and it was one of the most important early Christian symbols. Not only did fish feature in several miracles of Jesus in the Gospels, but the ichthys was taken as an acrostic for the Greek phrase "Iēsous Christos Theou Hyios Sōtēr," which means "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior."



In the book of Revelation, Jesus says of himself, "I am Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." (Rev 22.13) Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and Omega is the last one. Putting the two together, they represent the eternity of Christ as the Son of God.



The Chi-Rho is a combination of the Greek letter chi (X) and rho (P), which are the first two letters of the Greek word for "Christ," and so when put together represent "Jesus."



The IH Monogram consists of the Greek letters iota (I) and eta (H), which are the first two letters of the word "Jesus" in Greek, and as such was a common shorthand for "Jesus."



In the ancient world, anchors symbolized safety. The author of the Hebrews adapted this symbol for the hope Christians have in Christ: "We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek." (Heb 6.19-20)

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Christian symbolism is the use of symbols, including archetypes, acts, artwork or events, by Christianity. It invests objects or actions with an inner meaning expressing Christian ideas.

The symbolism of the early Church was characterized by being understood by initiates only, while after the legalization of Christianity in the 4th-century more recognizable symbols entered in use. Christianity has borrowed from the common stock of significant symbols known to most periods and to all regions of the world.

Christianity has not generally practiced Aniconism, or the avoidance or prohibition of types of images, even if the early Jewish Christians sects, as well as some modern denominations, preferred to some extent not to use figures in their symbols, by invoking the Decalogue's prohibition of idolatry.



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VETERANS' DAY PARADE PHOTOS

Submitted by LTC ROBERT SAWALLES





Honoring the military at Westfield Brandon Town Center.





1 DECEMBER  
 LTJG KEVIN G DOREMUS NOAA AD  
 MAJ DOLORES INCREMONA USAF RET  
 FMR 1LT JAMES G KALEMERIS USAF  
 AUXILIARY MEMBER BETTY PURCELL  
 USAF CAPT BRUCE SNYDER

9 DECEMBER  
 MAJ B R HEWITT USAF RET

10 DECEMBER  
 COL JEFFERSON KASTER USMC AD  
 13 DECEMBER  
 LT COL JOHN F HALLGREN USAF RET

16 DECEMBER  
 BG THOMAS BOWEN USA RET  
 CAPT SARA MARKS NC USN RET  
 LTC MICHAEL NEWCOMB USA AD

18 DECEMBER  
 AUXILIARY MEMBER JOAN ADKINS  
 LT COL THOMAS ALLEN USAF RET

19 DECEMBER  
 MAJ GENE FLANAGAN JR USAF RET

21 DECEMBER  
 MAJ JAMES S GARBETT USAFR RET

22 DECEMBER  
 LTCOL KENNETH MARTIN USMCR RET

23 DECEMBER  
 LT JOSEPH S ANTONETTI USNR RET  
 AUXILIARY MEMBER OLGA ELLIS  
 LT COL ROBERT FARKAS USAF  
 LTC ROBERT PAYNE USA RET

25 DECEMBER  
 CAPT JOHN OVERTON USN RET

26 DECEMBER  
 CDR RICHARD R HELVESTON CHC USNR RET  
 MAJOR CHIP HIGH USAF RET

27 DECEMBER  
 LCDR DOUGLAS MACINTYRE NOAA AD

28 DECEMBER  
 LTC WILLIAM GIBBONS USMC AD  
 CAPT CHRISTOPHER HEATH USN RET  
 AUXILIARY MEMBER HAZEL SAWYER

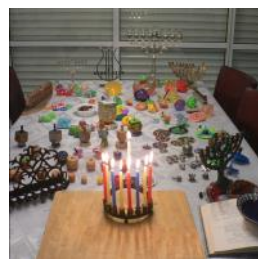
29 DECEMBER  
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 LTC DAN DUKES USA RET  
 LTC GEORGE LANGE JR USA RET  
 CDR SEAN RYAN USCG AD

30 DECEMBER  
 COL DON OLDS USAF RET

THE STORY OF HANUKKAH



A hanukkiah, menorah with nine branches



Hanukkah table

Hanukkah (/ˈhɑːnəkə/ HAH-nə-kə; Hebrew: חַנּוּכָּה hanuká, Tiberian: hanuká, usually spelled חנוכה pronounced [χanuˈka] in Modern Hebrew, [ˈχanikə] or [ˈχanikə] in Yiddish; a transliteration also romanized as Chanukah or Hanukah) is a Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the Gregorian calendar. It is also known as the Festival of Lights and the Feast of Dedication.

The festival is observed by lighting the candles of a candelabrum with nine branches, called a Hanukkah menorah (or hanukkiah). One branch is typically placed above or below the others and its candle is used to light the other eight candles. This unique candle is called the shamash (Hebrew: שמשׁ"attendant"). Each night, one additional candle is lit by the shamash until all eight candles are lit together on the final night of the holiday.

Other Hanukkah festivities include playing dreidel and eating oil-based foods such as doughnuts and latkes. Since the 1970s, the worldwide Chabad Hasidic movement has initiated public menorah lightings in open public places in many countries.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanukkah>

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**Operation Helping Hand**  
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featuring their creative artwork

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**2018**  
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**Spangled**  
**Art Event**



Painting by Stuart Dwork



Painting by Carol Zares



Painting by Jim Kalamoris

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Sponsored by Operation Helping Hand, MOAA and  
St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs Campus

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___ X \$30.00 = _____		<b>Presidents Reception:</b> \$30.00 Each Attendee
___ X \$30.00 = _____		<b>Breakfast :</b> \$30.00 Each Attendee
___ X \$30.00 = _____		<b>Luncheon:</b> \$30.00 Each Attendee
___ #		<b>Attending Military Ball</b>

**Meal choices for Military Ball**

___ X \$50.00 = _____	\$50.00 each London Broil
___ X \$50.00 = _____	\$50.00 each Chicken Marsala
___ X \$55.00 = _____	\$55.00 each Grilled Salmon

**Shirts**

___ X \$35.00 = _____	Man: ___ Small ___ Med ___ Large ___ XLarge ___ XXLLarge
___ X \$35.00 = _____	Woman: ___ Small ___ Med ___ Large ___ XLarge ___ XXLLarge

\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL COST (Check Payable to: Florida Council of Chapters)**

\_\_\_ Will Attend \_\_\_ Will Not Attend **20 June Operation Helping Hand Dinner**  
(*No charge for meal. Transportation provided by James A Haley Veterans Hospital from Safety Harbor Spa and Resort for first 50 that sign up.*)

\_\_\_ Will \_\_\_ Will not need transportation from Spa

**Mail Form and Check to:** Lewis VanDyke  
1151 Shipwatch Circle  
Tampa, FL 33602-5786

**NOTE:** Send questions or special accommodation needs to: [vandykeRL@verizon.net](mailto:vandykeRL@verizon.net)  
Provide any comments you may have on the back of this form.

# We Need You

## to join us in organizing, preparing and hosting the 2019 FCOC 41st Annual Convention

It will be hosted by the Tampa Chapter, MOAA, at the historic  
**Safety Harbor Resort and Spa**  
**June 20th to 23rd 2019.**

Please volunteer for one of the following Committees: Publicity (Souvenir Books, Book Ads and Website promotions); Coordinators for Major Events (Specify one - President’s Reception; Military Ball; Silent Auction; All-Hands Breakfast; Luncheon, and Spouse Activities); Transportation; Reception & Hospitality Room; Shirt Sales; and Memorial Service.

### Leadership Committee Volunteers

(Please Print)

Name (F,MI,L): \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Text: Yes \_\_ No \_\_

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (F,MI,L): \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Text: Yes \_\_ No \_\_

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail** your completed form to: Tampa Chapter MOAA, P.O.Box 6383, MacDill AFB, FL 33608-0383; **Email** your information to [c3ihart@gmail.com](mailto:c3ihart@gmail.com); **or Submit** the form at the next MOAA luncheon.

**Please contact us with any questions.**

**Chairman:** LTC Chris Hart, USA (Ret.), 813.765.5832, [c3ihart@gmail.com](mailto:c3ihart@gmail.com) **CoChairs:** LTC Doug Andrews, USA (Ret.), 813.857.7089, [fda6890@yahoo.com](mailto:fda6890@yahoo.com)

COL Lewis VanDyke, USA (Ret.) 703.984.9289, [vandykel@verizon.net](mailto:vandykel@verizon.net)

We meet monthly in conjunction with the Tampa Chapter’s luncheon at the Surf’s Edge Club on MacDill AFB.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARINES



Proud Parris Island Graduate—submitted by LTC Robert Sawallesh

The official birthday of the United States Marine Corps is on 10 November 1775. That was the day when the Second Continental Congress established the Continental Marines with the following decree:

That two battalions of Marines be raised consisting of one Colonel, two lieutenant-colonels, two majors and other officers, as usual in other regiments; that they consist of an equal number of privates as with other battalions, that particular care be taken that no persons be appointed to offices, or enlisted into said battalions, but such as are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve for and during the present war with Great Britain and the Colonies; unless dismissed by Congress; that they be distinguished by the names of the First and Second Battalions of Marines.

Tun Tavern, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is regarded as the birthplace of the Corps as the location of the first Marines to enlist under Commandant Samuel Nicholas though it is disputed if a recruiting drive may have occurred earlier at Nicholas's family tavern, the Conestoga Waggon. When the Revolutionary War ended in 1783, the Continental Navy was disestablished, and with it, the Continental Marines. The Corps was re-established on 11 July 1798, when the "act for establishing and organizing a Marine Corps" was signed by President John Adams.



# CONSTRUCTION AT JAH VETERANS' HOSPITAL

Submitted by LTC Robert Sawallesh USA RET



In case you have not driven by the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital recently, construction for the new bed tower is in full force.

I took the attached photos during afternoon rush hour on Tuesday, 30 October 2018. Note the photo of the "Operation Traffic Signal," intersection. One car is making an illegal left from the right turn only lane at JAHVH while another vehicle is making a U-turn or trying to drive into the JAHVH.. What a traffic intersection mess! Note the school bus. At the same time, USF Medical Library Staff are trying to make a left or right turn from that intersection.

You can help expedite traffic signals at this main JAHVH intersection, just Google < Go Petition @ Remove the danger >. To see video of the intersection go to YouTube, search < Tampa's Dangerous Intersection >. Please forward this email to your friends.

Bob  
Sawallesh





THE TAMPA CHAPTER OF THE  
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICA  
POST OFFICE BOX 6383  
MACDILL AFB FL 33608-0383



Tampa Chapter ([www.moaatampa.org](http://www.moaatampa.org))  
Operation Helping Hand ([www.operationhelpinghandtampa.com](http://www.operationhelpinghandtampa.com))

MOAA National ([www.moaaf.org](http://www.moaaf.org))  
FL COUNCIL ([www.moaaf.org](http://www.moaaf.org))

**Chapter luncheon will be held at the  
Surf's Edge Club on  
13 DECEMBER 2018  
AT NOON**

**PLEASE CALL IN YOUR  
RESERVATION BY 7 DECEMBER  
2018 TO (813)676-4676**

**DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS & CHANUKAH**  
ROLLS & BUTTER  
CAESAR SALAD  
HAM/ROAST BEEF – DEPENDS ON PRICING  
POTATO PANCAKES  
LEMON ZEST BROCCOLI  
ASSORTED PIES & DESSERTS



America's wounded and injured active duty military have responded to their country's call. Since May 2004, our mission for the past fourteen years has been to respond to them and their families in all of their needs. We will continue with Tampa Chapter's help.

