



President's Message

The happiest New Year wishes to each and every one of you. Where did 2022 go? Seems like we have the worst behind us. Now if we can only get the economy jump started this year!

We did a lot in 2022 - for our members and for the community. Dinner Theater, Golf, Open House, Rays Game, Christmas Party, monthly luncheons, monthly socials, \$10,000 scholarship, \$8,000 Angels Against Abuse, \$7,000 InterFaith Food Pantry, \$8,000 Leah and Brea, \$2,000 Osceola Fundamenta High School, Gift Bags for seniors, Toys for local military families, etc., etc.

Special thanks to Dr. Gloria Hill and Shirley Murphy for their inspiring leadership in these areas. They have enriched our lives and the lives of countless others in our local area. Many thanks to both of them.

So I guess it's time for a New Year's Resolution or two. How about these:

Let's resolve to develop a deeper appreciation for this wonderful and unique organization, and its members who continue to devote time and resources to our benefit.

Let's resolve to seek more opportunities to improve the lives of our members and the communities in which we live.

We will install our new leadership at the member luncheon on January 18 at Banquet Masters. We will also honor the special contributions of many MVA members. So why don't you resolve to help welcome our new leaders and salute our special members.

Minnreg Veterans Association Newsletter

The MVA Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Minnreg Veterans Association, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit Corporation, chartered in 1958 and located at 12467 62nd St. N. Suite 103 in the Oaklefe Center, Largo, Florida 33773.

Website: www.minnregs.com Inquiries: info@minnregs.com



Some of the toys collected for local military families.

Thanks for helping us help our neighbors!



Year in Review 2022



Well, it's time to wrap this 2022 thing up and store it next to all the others as it fades into distant memories. While we are still making adjustments and seeing what works, 2022 was a pretty fine year all around for MVA.

For our members, 2022 was filled with socials, luncheons and other special events. We held several socials at the American Legion Post 273 on Madeira Beach. •We learned that Wednesday seems to be a better social day than Friday, so we moved our socials to Wednesday. •We discovered the Fat Cat Tavern in Largo, and we will be hosting more socials there in 2023.

•We had a host of topics at our luncheons, including senior crime, life in the Pilgrim colony, Personal Life History, comfort dogs at John Hopkins All Childrens Hospital, NASA update and others.

•We pledged continuing allegiance to the flag of the Unites States of America.

•We saluted all our military veterans and thanked them for their service and sacrifice.

•We elected a new batch of leaders without one bit of drama.

•We held an open house in April to introduce our new office to the membership.

•We sent a group to the Early Bird Dinner Theater and a Tampa Bay Rays game.

•We held two golf tournaments, weekly Mexican Dominoes, monthly Ham Radio club meetings, weekly bridge tournaments, occasional Texas Hold-em games.

•We rang bells for the Salvation Army.

•We collected items for the homeless, toys for military families, diapers for Angels, food for Interfaith food pantry.

•We awarded a \$10,000 scholarship to Jaden King attending FAMU.

•We presented a check for \$8,000 to Angels Against Abuse, \$7,000 to the Interfaith Food Pantry, \$8,000 to the Dog Therapy program at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, 2-3D Printers to Osceola Fundamental High School.

•••All in all, a great year for the MVA and our community!





MVA in the Community Angels Against Abuse



For the second straight year, MVA has supported Angels Against Abuse. This great organization's mission is to build awareness and educate the community with regard to existing and/or potential neglect and abuse against children. To provide support, monetarily and through hands on volunteer hours to neglected and abused children who are removed from an abusive situation or are in danger of removal. We are extremely proud of our relationship with Angels and the phenomenal work they do in the community.



The Angels work especially hard at Christmas time. They serve the needs of a number of agencies who are hands-on with the foster program. At this time of year, each agency sends a list of names along with a wish list from each child. From toddler to teen, the Angels go shopping for the gifts, place them in gift bags with the name of each child placed on the bag.

The angels filled an entire gymnasium with gift bags stacked on tables all along the four walls of the gym. The agencies' representatives carried out the gift bags and distributed them to their children for Christmas.

It was a great day for the Angels, for the children in foster care, and for MVA - seeing our contribution in action!



MVA in the Community Salvation Army Bell Ringers



John & Shirley Bowers

Thursday, December 8 was a special day for the MVA members who worked the Salvation Army bells at the Publix store at Gulf-to-Bay and Belcher in Clearwater. There is great joy in being able to wish a Merry Christmas to so many folks as they hurry through their busy holiday schedules. Watching strangers drop folding money into the kettle is a real treat. Knowing that every penny we collect goes directly to helping families in need in our community makes it all worth while. Special thanks to Ron Rasmussen for coordinating this effort each year for the MVA.



Mary Reffelt and Al (Santa) Shields



Thom & Deb Dupper

MVA in the Community

Senior Gift Bags



In years past, the Honeywell Retirees Club hosted senior Christmas dinners at the Minnreg Hall for residents of local Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities. The pandemic changed all that in a big way. No one could leave. No one could visit.



Our VP of Community Affairs, Dr. Gloria Hill, found a way to reach out the shut-in seniors with a gift to brighten their Christmas.

This year, the MVA decided to provide Christmas gift bags to the residents at two local facilities:

Westchester Gardens – 120 Beds

ProMedica Memory Care – 60-80 Beds

Request for Corporate Documents

Board Meeting Minutes and Corporate financial reports are available to any active MVA member.

Please send your request for a specific report to secretary@minnregs.com



MVA in the Community Partner Schools



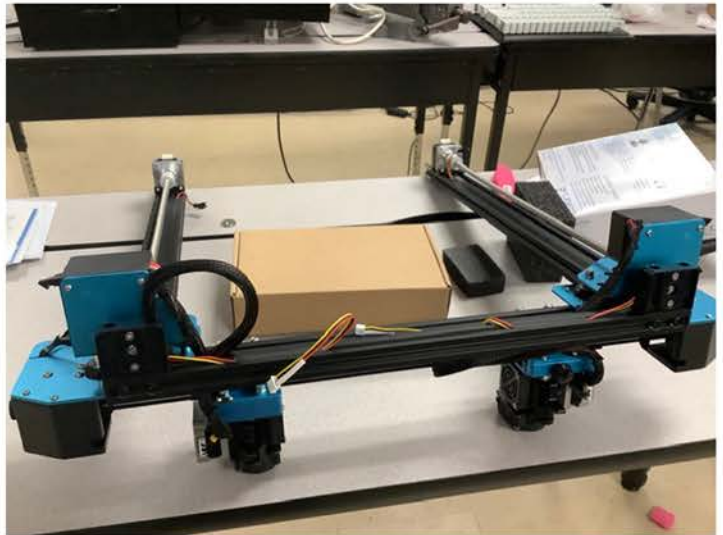
Osceola Fundamental High School \$2K Two 3D Printers

All students that go through the engineering program and pass the test receive industry standard software certification. The issue was being able to provide hands on practice because the school only had a single 3D printing machine. This older machine sometime took hours to print a single design. With as many as 20 students in one class that caused a considerable wait time for results.

The MVA heard about the issue and decided to purchase two new 3D printers and donate them to the school, giving students the hands-on practice needed for today's workforce.

Teacher Appreciation Day at Tyrone Middle School

On Thursday, May 5, we surprised teachers at Tyrone Middle School with two Kuerig coffee makers and all the fixings that make a great cup of coffee. The pots were placed in the Teacher's Lounge and are being used by over 100 faculty and staff members at our partner school.





MVA Christmas Party December 2, 2022



Santa and Mrs. Claus (she apparently has no first name!) stole the show at the annual MVA Christmas party on Wednesday, December 2 at Banquet Masters. The skit was inspired, the appetizers were fabulous, the meal was delicious and the music and dancing were live! Plus we gave a whole bunch of toys to local military families. A great time all around.



Not Ready for Primetime Players



Dancing to the music of Soundwavz



Toys collected for local Military families



Al (Santa)Shields, Sargeant Morris, Deb (Mrs. Claus) Dupper



Jane & Dennis Willis - award winning sweater!



Jo Ketring, Tom & Bea Commer



Francis & Dr. Gloria Hill



Jim Acosta, Al (Santa) Shields, Carol Bailey, Deb (Mrs. Claus) Dupper, Carol Janney, Ron Rasmussen



Kathy O'Dell, Sara Bleattler, Artie Martin, Debbie & Scott Webber



Deb Dupper, Al Shields, Wendy Hugar, Bea Commer





MVA Christmas Party December 2, 2022



Gloria Whitfield, Al Parisi, DC Stevenson



Jo Ketring, John Schiffgen, Loni Wellington



Betty Held, Carl Baum



Marihyn & Don Bayer



Billy & Natalie Adkins



Kathy O'Dell, Artie Martin, Glenn Nichols



Ken Nelson, Maryanne Letteri



Teri & Michael Godfrey



Ron & Sherry Rasmussen



Howard Howe, Shirley Murphy



Bob & Nancy Dalton



Shirley & John Bowers





MVA Christmas Party December 2, 2022



Margaret & Steve Simmons



Deb & Thom Dupper



Tom & Bea Conner



Joe & Stan (SoundWavz)



Dennis & Jane Willis



Faith & Paul Kraemer



Gayle Smith, John Voissem



Al & Andrea Shields



Richard & Mary Reffelt



Masako & Larry Shannon



The Clauses





MVA Christmas Party December 2, 2022



Howard Howe, Shirley Murphy, Ben & Emilie Carter, Larry Harper, Genevieve Urbanski, Clive & Carol Bailey



Mary Reffelt, Maryanne Letteri



Wendy Hugar



Betty Held, Shirley Murphy, Shirley Bowers, Deb Dupper, Mary Reffelt, Vivian O'Dell, Bea Conner



Vivian O'Dell



Fred Miller



Save the Dates

Monthly Luncheons

All monthly luncheons are held at the Banquet Masters facility, 13355 49th St N, Clearwater, FL 33762. Doors open at 11 am. Luncheons are free to active members. Guests are welcome at \$15.

2023 Dates:

January 18; February 15; March 15; April 19; May 17; June 21; July 19; September 20; October 18; November 15.

Monthly Socials

Monthly socials are held on the first Wednesday of each month at various locations in the area. Check the MVA newsletter for location details. Doors open at 4 pm. Socials are free to active members. Guests are welcome at \$15.

2023 Dates:

January 4; February 1; March 1; April 5; May 3; June 7; July 5; August 2; September 6; October 4; November 1.



From the HI Archives Honeybelles

The AEROLINE Honeywell

The Honeybelles were an active part of Honeywell life from April, 1972 until they folded the tent in 2016.

Loni Wellington submitted the following article remembering the Honeybelles.

Ladies with over 5 years of service at Honeywell were called (if they wanted to join a group of about 100 women) Honeybelles.

Honeybelles started in Minneapolis (our home quarters at that time). We were a charity-charter club licensed by Florida.

When we started we were women only. We had installation banquets and silly games like rolling an egg across the gym floor. Some hard boiled and some not. We sponsored shut down parties and sold nuts and odds and ends to accumulate money for our charities. We brought food in for the local churches and when the building was rented we would run the kitchen to support our cause. There were cat shows, flea markets, Christmas carnivals in Honeywell parking lots just to name a few ways we came up with extra funds.

Somewhere about 2000 we started letting men join our group. Rocky Hagan was our first male member and would not come alone so John Schiffgen came with him. They stood at the front of the room to join at the same time as 3 other women. They were so tolerant to stand there and hold the little candle while taking their vows. They had to be told to stop laughing a couple of times..... Oh well.

Toward the end we had gotten down to only 20 members and all so busy that none of us had time to continue to run for the board and the duties that come along with being a functioning group.



Honeybelles at the Minnreg Hall. That's Teri Godfrey (Vietto) on the right.



Rolling an egg across the Minnreg Hall floor.



Happy Birthday from MVA!



01-01 Jean Carrabotta
 01-01 Otto Coldiron
 01-01 Roger Ertsgaard
 01-01 Sherrie Graff
 01-01 Kimberly (Kim) Johnson
 01-01 Louis Lutz
 01-01 Sharon Mclendon
 01-01 Judy Merritt
 01-01 Jacqueline Morgan
 01-01 Peggy Olmsted
 01-02 Dorris Beecher
 01-02 Louisa Burch
 01-02 Peter Tibault
 01-02 Sandra Walling
 01-03 Alice Blandford
 01-03 Ernest (Ernie) Bolliger
 01-03 Ronald (Falstaff) Folse
 01-03 Wayne Olmsted
 01-03 Jim Stone
 01-04 Sara Blizzard
 01-04 E. Gaylor
 01-04 Michael Pilver
 01-04 Rachel Rennaker
 01-04 Michael (Mike) Richards
 01-04 Dennis Willis
 01-05 Elena Hoel
 01-05 Judy Moses
 01-05 Esther Rosewall
 01-06 Edward Brown
 01-06 Jill Graetz
 01-06 Beverly Green
 01-06 Robert Hadden
 01-06 Donna Joldersma
 01-06 William Logan
 01-06 Anthony Polito
 01-06 Wesley Sewell
 01-06 Jack Smetzer
 01-06 Carolyn Tucker
 01-07 Marie Brown
 01-07 Joanne (Joni) Byland
 01-07 Bradford Clough
 01-07 William. (Bill) Dobson
 01-07 Peggy Wollitz
 01-07 Ernst Wurster
 01-08 Beth Berglund
 01-08 Loyce Ostravage
 01-08 Suzanne Sowada
 01-08 Lorraine Tierney
 01-08 Virginia Vignali

01-08 Robert Watson
 01-09 Bernice Campbell
 01-09 John Forslund
 01-09 Don Kelso
 01-09 Richard La Luzerne
 01-10 M. Boudreau
 01-10 Ron Cender
 01-10 Noel Morell
 01-10 Ronald (Ron) Rasmussen
 01-10 Carleton Toelken
 01-11 Christina Blomberg
 01-11 Edward Householder
 01-11 Dorothy Johnson
 01-11 Stephanie Puffer
 01-11 Darrell Schreiber
 01-11 Judith Stuebs
 01-13 Linda Baker
 01-13 James Beneyfield
 01-13 Elizabeth Gessler
 01-13 John Hood
 01-13 Ingrid Jones
 01-13 Vickie Maxam
 01-13 Donald Papke
 01-14 John Chase
 01-15 Therese Frechette
 01-15 Anthony (Tony) Masey
 01-15 Jerome Rogers
 01-15 Craig Ross
 01-15 John Vassalo
 01-16 David Brown
 01-16 Joann Dunlap
 01-16 Sue Foster
 01-17 Betty (Chris) Blood
 01-17 Gerald Coffey
 01-17 Henry Debona
 01-17 Delores Engelken
 01-17 Joseph Lacki
 01-18 Marsha Barlow
 01-18 Linda Hewitt
 01-18 Barbara Vogel
 01-19 Natalie Adkins
 01-19 David (Dave) Conley
 01-19 Norma James
 01-19 Kathleen Mello
 01-19 Linda Tredo
 01-20 Kathleen (Kathy) Barry
 01-20 Nancy Leiser
 01-20 W. Lovelace
 01-21 Margaret Coffey

01-21 John Delich
 01-21 Clifford Johnson
 01-22 Robert Capuro
 01-22 Betty (Jean) Logston
 01-22 Martha Sparks
 01-22 Wes Tredo
 01-22 Ed Webb
 01-23 Matti Kert
 01-23 Brenda Miller
 01-24 Tom Conner
 01-24 James Crawford
 01-24 Francis James
 01-24 Alice Poppler
 01-24 Martha Post
 01-24 Barbara Silvera
 01-24 Karen Simon
 01-24 Stephen (Steve) Smith
 01-24 Helen Younskevicius
 01-25 Michael (Mike) Godfrey
 01-25 Marjorie Smetana
 01-26 James Sr Campbell
 01-26 Robertine DeFelix
 01-26 James Gibson
 01-26 James Kruck
 01-27 Louis Cason
 01-27 Eric Kriby
 01-28 Abigail Almer
 01-28 Bobbie Hoopes
 01-28 Angel Otero
 01-28 John Stephens
 01-29 Joan (Joan) Cole
 01-29 Jacolynn Wyllie
 01-30 Peggy Allen
 01-30 Martina Eckard
 01-30 Gloria Michurski
 01-30 Josephine (Jo) Phillips
 01-30 Barbara Schulte
 01-30 Janice Todd
 01-30 Robert (Bob) Turner
 01-31 Thomas Borree
 01-31 John Dillon
 01-31 Mary Fellerman
 01-31 Stephen Merritt
 01-31 Donald (Don) Miller
 01-31 Betty Miller
 01-31 Joyce Saxon
 01-31 J. Stultz
 01-31 Vallee Weaver Willis