



Regulator  
**Minnreg**  
Minneapolis



# December 2022 Newsletter



## President's Message

Where did the year go? Seems as we grow longer in the tooth, the days, weeks, months and years begin to accelerate. So here we are on the brink of a new year and more exciting times for the MVA organization.

I sincerely hope you had a joyous Thanksgiving, filled with family, fun and a lot of food.

We will wrap up this year's events on Friday, December 2 with our annual Christmas party and dance. We will bless the families of active military in the area with toys for Christmas (unwrapped please!) This will cap off a very active Community involvement program in 2022. We are making a difference in the Tampa Bay community!

We are also making a difference in the lives of our MVA members through a very active event schedule, from Golf to the Rays. Our monthly socials and luncheons keep us all connected as we explore important issues impacting all of us.

Our leadership installation banquet is set for January 18 at Banquet Masters. Doors open at 11. The program will welcome in the 2023 Board of Directors and the MVA Staff. We will also honor those members who have gone above and beyond to help move the MVA organization forward. Make plans now to attend this very important event.

This is also a great time to renew your annual MVA membership through the online form: (<https://minnregs.com/membership-application/>) or in person at the Christmas party.

Finally, do you know someone who used to work at the great HI who is not taking advantage of membership in our great organization? Please reach out to them and invite them to join us.

### **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](http://www.minnregs.com) Inquiries: [info@minnregs.com](mailto:info@minnregs.com)







# Monthly Social November 2



It was a great Wednesday night at Fat Cat Tavern in Largo! Lots of great conversations, a new venue with lots of room, dinner selected from a menu, door prizes and the outstanding job by Al Shields to pull the whole thing together. Socials will move to first Wednesdays each month in 2023. Al and his team are seeking out new and exciting venues for the events.



*Sherry & Danielle & Andy Rasmussen*



*Bea Conner, Deb Dupper, Tom Conner*



*Larry Harper, Ben Carter, Howard Howe*



*Billie & Natalie Adkins, Fred Miller*



*Loni Wellington, Al Shields,  
John Schiffgen, Jo Ketring, Mike Godfrey*



*Dan & Betty Bordeaux*



*Larry Trefz, Bob Dalton, Jerry Dangler*



*Shirley & John Bowers, Shirley Murphy*



*Danielle & Andy Rasmussen*



*Gayle Smith, John Voissem*



*Mary & Richard Reffelt*



*Deb & Thom Dupper*





# Monthly Social November 2



*Richard & Helen Malzahn*



*Pat Keegan, Kay & Jim McCormick*



*Larry & Masako Shannon, Artie Martin*



*Wendy Hugar, Jeff Cheney*



*Al Shields*



*Dennis & Jane Willis*



*Genevieve Urbanski,  
Larry Harper*



*Lorraine Wert*



*Vivian O'Dell*



*Marty Martinez*



*Dave Donnelly*



*Jim Acosta*



*Loni Wellington, John Schiffgen,  
Jo Ketring, Mike Godfrey*



*Al Shields, Deb Dupper, Andrea Shields*



*Deb's home! Welcome back.*





# Monthly Luncheon November 16



Our last luncheon of the year featured a traditional Thanksgiving lunch along with a great program called, "Saving Claire," a critically acclaimed video about an elderly woman whose fall changes her life. We heard from Arlene Grosso, a Certified Aging in Place Specialist who fielded questions about removing fall hazards from our homes. Arlene can be reached at 727.560.8965 for any additional questions.



*Carol & John Janney*



*Richard & Mary Reffelt, Carol & John Janney*



*Jan & Bob Friend*



*Emilie & Ben Carter, Genevieve Urbanski, Larry Harper, Shirley Murphy, Howard Howe*



*Artie Martin, Vivian O'Dell*



*Teresa Mickiewicz, Jean Miller, Betty Held*



*Sherry & Ron Rasmussen*



*Jack Ptacek, Stephanie Puffer*



*Shirley Murphy, Paul Krahrmer*



*Jim Acosta, DC Stevenson,*



*Dennis & Jane Willis*



*Faith Krahrmer, Vivian O'Dell*





# Monthly Luncheon November 16



*Richard & Mary Reffelt*



*Gayle Smith, John Voissem*



*Paul & Faith Krahrmer*



*Shirley Murphy, Howard Howe*



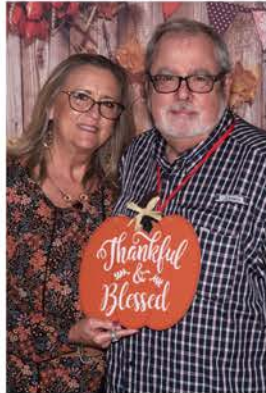
*John & Shirley Bowers*



*Sam & Sandy Janofsky*



*Margaret & Steve Simmons*



*Deb & Thom Dupper*



*Vivian O'Dell  
Masako Shannon*



*Larry & Masako Shannon*



*Bob Cannistraro*



*Dr. Gloria Hill*



*Jack Freeman*



*Artie Martin*



71 MVA members and guests enjoyed a very entertaining play at the Early Bird Dinner Theater. As always, the manager, Susan Linardos (yes - that Linardos! She is married to Stath's son) took excellent care of us and the food and service were great.







## 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.



# Member Satisfaction Survey



We want to know how we are doing as we lead this dynamic organization into the future, so we asked our active members to complete a satisfaction survey over the past couple of months. We received some very valuable feedback from the 22 members who took the time to provide it. The following pages present the actual results from each part of the survey. Overall, you told us we are doing a good job, and you provided us with some very valuable suggestions for getting better!

## MVA Member Events

The following questions deal with the MVA member events

How often do you participate in MVA member events?

- Only occasionally
- 3-4 times a year
- Once a month
- More than once a month

Participation

	I don't attend	I attend some	I attend most
Monthly Socials	2	2	13
Monthly Luncheons	1	4	15
Club Meetings at MVA Office	8	5	4
Golf Scramble	9	2	5
Dinner Theater	2	0	15
Rays Game	8	5	6
Annual Holiday Party	2	8	13

Which of the following are factors causing you NOT to attend monthly socials and luncheons?

- time and day
- location
- transportation
- mobility (hard to get anywhere)
- programs don't interest me
- people (don't know many members)





# Member Satisfaction Survey



Please let us know if there is something we can do to see you more often.

We are having a hard time with the email and registration system for the luncheons and other activities I've been in the main rig since 1977 zero and so it's just me trying to communicate Joe727 581-8235

A great organization -- wish I could attend . . .

Glad to see the social change from Friday to Wednesday because of the Friday traffic on I 275 & US 19

Pick more desirable places to hold socials; Never hold at places like a dive bar in Pinellas Park...lots of pickup trucks with Confederate flags in parking lot plus several of our members contracted covid. Use places such as "Caddies-on-the Beach" for casual events.

Lets make special events more membership inclusive. We seem to focus mostly on golfing and live theater. They are very pricey and many members are not interested or tired of them. I'm always there

As a new member don't know yet ...

not interested in golf or dinner theater. Can members attend officer meetings and board meeting? I didn't know that members could attend meetings. I haven't read anything about this or perhaps I don't know where to look for this info. I would attend some officer meetings and board meeting if I was allowed to.

Offer a variety of programs (besides golf and cards). Serve a variety of foods.

How satisfied are you with our member activities?

	Not Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	N/A
Monthly Socials	1	0	7	10	0
Monthly Luncheons	0	0	5	12	0
Club Meetings at MVA Office	0	1	0	3	10
Golf Scramble	1	2	0	3	8
Dinner Theater	1	1	3	13	0
Rays Game	0	1	2	7	4
Annual Holiday Party	0	0	4	11	2
Annual Holiday Party	0	0	4	11	2

What are your recommendations for improving our member activities?

Luncheon programs are interesting and activities are fun. Keep up the good work.

I only gave monthly socials a satisfactory rating because having them in the back room isn't a different feeling as for food or ambiance. I hope having them on a different night will give us many more different venues.

Sound is a problem at the luncheons for me. I understand about half of what is being said.

Speaker system could use some improvements

Cut down on golfing and theater events. Spread recreation budget across more membership inclusive events>> fishing trip, museum, poker tournament, Rays game, Ybor City, etc.

As a new member it is difficult to make any recommendations - it appears you are very well organized, and folks are quite pleased with the activities.

A Rowdies game might be fun. Also, I especially like the programs that deal with problems of old people.

I enjoy being with people who are as old as I am and it is fun belonging to a group of them!

- Attend 2 Tampa Bay Rays games in 2023 instead of 1.
- Instead of dinner theater and/or golf, take ferry trip from St Pete to Tampa (\$16 round trip each) and have lunch at Columbia Rest in Ybor (~\$38 each) no liquor included, use private room, assume 30 for lunch. Guests could buy a drink at the bar on their own. Members would have option to skip ferry trip and just attend luncheon at Columbia Rest. Budget would need to be reallocated to be able to do this. Timing would be Feb or March or April 2023. These activities are inclusive. Overall, alot of money is spent on the social activities. Personally, I don't think a social is required every month and money could be saved and utilized for more varied/new activities.
- A Lightning game may be too expensive. A bucs game lowest cost was \$200.
- Going to Lowry Park zoo is a nice outing and not to pricey. I don't know cost of going to Tampa Aquarium which might be a nice outing.





# Member Satisfaction Survey



## Community Support

The following questions deal with our ongoing support of the local community.

### Satisfaction

	Not Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Annual Scholarship Award	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 2	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 8	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 8
School Partnership Program	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 9	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 8
Community Agency Grant	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 9	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 7

Do you volunteer to work on MVA community support outreaches?

- 9 No
- 6 Occasionally
- 2 Frequently

What are your recommendations for improving our community support?

I thoroughly enjoyed working at the Salvation Army at Christmas, sorting through the gifts given for children. Also, sorting all the food donated, so they can be boxed for the needy.  
 More due diligence in awarding grant recipients . Better monitoring of grants to public schools. Continue at same budget total but spread smaller awards over more recipients.  
 let the membership vote on money given to non profits not just give out 5 or 10k and we find out at a meeting  
 As a new member don't know yet ...  
 I like the idea of bringing something to donate each month to the luncheon. Canned goods, diapers, socks, tee shirts, anything we can pick up to bring and know we are helping someone.  
 Since August, I have been supporting Gloria. We were able to recommend a donation to Osceola Fundamental HS of 3D printers that Gloria and I worked out after visiting the Engineering teacher at the school. Money given to various organizations should be in smaller increments and spread out within community to increase diversity and inclusiveness.  
 I don't know the community agency grant but probably should be smaller and spread out to other agencies to be more inclusive and diverse.

How can we increase the number of MVA community volunteers?

Provide more info and ample time to check our schedules.  
 As a new member don't know yet ...  
 Encourage more people to get their kids to join us so we will have some younger people to help with both community and MVA activities. People as old as some of us have kids in their 60's, so they are old enough to be part of us but still young enough to help with the work.  
 I volunteer in the community via MVA, Mentor in Local High School and mentor small businesses as a volunteer with Pinellas County SCORE.  
 Gloria indicated that many MVA members volunteer within our community.  
 We are a social club where folks just want to have fun.





# Member Satisfaction Survey



## MVA Office

How satisfied are you with the MVA office?

	Not Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Overall Appearance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
Cleanliness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>
Supplies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>
Refreshments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
# and Type of Events	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>

What are your recommendations for improving our office?

I was only at the Open House, so I can't accurately make suggestions.  
 Only attended once because of living in Manatee county and driving distance and traffic  
 its small can not do anything about it  
 As a new member don't know yet ... have never been there.  
 Parking is always a problem. Can this be approved? Can we at least specify where we can park if the few spots in front are full?

## Overall Satisfaction with the MVA Organization

Overall, the MVA organization is doing a good job

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- 5** Agree
- 13** Strongly Agree
- 2** No Opinion





# Member Satisfaction Survey



Overall, the MVA organization provides good member activities

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- 6**  Agree
- 12**  Strongly Agree
- No Opinion

Overall, the MVA organization provides good community support

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- 2**  Agree
- 15**  Strongly Agree
- No Opinion

## Help us with our 2023 program

What types of events should we offer? \*indicate extra member cost.

- 19** Monthly socials
- 19** Monthly luncheons
- 16** Holiday party
- 19** Dinner theater
- 11** Community theater
- 10** Museum tours
- 12** Zoo tour
- 5** Fishing trip\*
- 15** Dinner yacht\*
- 12** Rays game
- 8** Lightning game
- 3** Thrasher game
- 5** Concert\*

### MVA Leadership

#### Board of Directors:

John Bowers	j.bowers8@knology.net
Thom Dupper	thom@textusllc.com
Terry Miller	terrymillerfl@gmail.com
Tom Conner	bzzbea.tom@gmail.com
Al Shields	al@alshieldsrealtor.com

#### Board of Directors Advisory Committee:

Mark Wolf	mwolf1@msn.com
Dan Bordeaux	dannybordeaux@yahoo.com
Jerry Dangler	jrdangler@yahoo.com
John Voissem	Jvoissem64@gmail.com

President: Thom Dupper	president@minnregs.com
Exec. Vice President: Al Shields	evp@minnregs.com
Recording Secretary: Vivian O'Dell	secretary@minnregs.com
VP Finance: Sam Janofsky	finance@minnregs.com
Office Manager: Dave Hewitt	office@minnregs.com
VP Community Service: Gloria Hill	community@minnregs.com
VP Member Activities : Wendy Hugar	member@minnregs.com





# Happy Birthday from MVA!



- |                             |                              |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 12-01 Mary Larkins          | 12-09 Marilyn (Lynn) Winger  | 12-20 John Snyder            |
| 12-01 Brenda Ochs           | 12-10 William (Billy) Adkins | 12-21 Carol Moyer            |
| 12-01 Jeffrey (Jeff) Ring   | 12-10 Roxanna Fall           | 12-21 Mary Sikorra           |
| 12-01 Janice Vassalo        | 12-10 Carol Janney           | 12-22 Darlene Bourdeau       |
| 12-02 Mary Farrell          | 12-10 Gordon Kafer           | 12-22 Colleen Brendla        |
| 12-02 John Francis          | 12-10 Gloria Leach           | 12-22 Tom Carr               |
| 12-02 Robert Kelley         | 12-10 Mary McMurtrey         | 12-22 William Fulton         |
| 12-02 Sandra (Sandy) Lloyd  | 12-10 Brenda Riser           | 12-22 Shirley Woodall        |
| 12-02 Clara Pesnell         | 12-10 Richard (Rick) Weaver  | 12-23 Alan (Al) Adams        |
| 12-02 Sandra (Sandi) Smith  | 12-11 David (Dave) Anderson  | 12-23 Joan (Joni) Blomberg   |
| 12-03 Judy Griebler         | 12-12 Florence Barbieri      | 12-23 Alice Hall             |
| 12-03 Robert (Bob) Kay      | 12-12 John Emery             | 12-23 Steve Jones            |
| 12-04 Sherry Brunk          | 12-12 Marilyn Hall           | 12-23 Barbara Peterson       |
| 12-04 Charlotte Bush        | 12-12 Bernadette Henrikson   | 12-23 Ruby (Peggy) Russell   |
| 12-04 Harley Reed           | 12-12 David (Dave) Hewitt    | 12-24 Donald Bates           |
| 12-04 Ronald Rich           | 12-12 Joyce Pairsh           | 12-24 Nancy Dalton           |
| 12-05 Ann Barrett           | 12-13 Gail Olsen             | 12-24 Glenn Ferrall          |
| 12-05 William (Bill) Mullen | 12-14 Charles Adams          | 12-24 Holly Wagner           |
| 12-05 Arthur (Art) Stewart  | 12-14 Bonnie Baker           | 12-25 John Blackburn         |
| 12-05 William Zeigler       | 12-15 Mae Bissonette         | 12-25 Charles Courtot        |
| 12-06 Joanne Bates          | 12-15 Nanilii (Nani) Freeman | 12-25 Thomas Milavec         |
| 12-06 Elaine Bicking        | 12-15 Pat Seifried           | 12-26 James Douglas          |
| 12-06 Helen Charette        | 12-15 Marilee Williams       | 12-26 Marlene Ewankowich     |
| 12-06 Kevin Hughes          | 12-16 Helen Hersh            | 12-26 Marilyn Klapka         |
| 12-06 Marilyn Humphries     | 12-16 Gene Lilly             | 12-26 Patricia Moschetto     |
| 12-06 Harry Jennings        | 12-16 Arthur (Artie) Martin  | 12-27 Jerry Beitz            |
| 12-06 George Suther         | 12-16 Allan Mason            | 12-27 Walter Coddington      |
| 12-07 Charles Bissonette    | 12-16 Douglas Pfromer        | 12-27 James Miletich         |
| 12-07 Joyce Broker          | 12-16 William Slone          | 12-27 Connie Peterson        |
| 12-07 Patricia Logan        | 12-17 Carol Armstrong        | 12-27 Anita Sewell           |
| 12-07 Terry Mulkey          | 12-17 Helen Flanagan         | 12-27 Margaret (Gayle) Smith |
| 12-07 Alma Reitmeyer        | 12-17 Patricia Millen        | 12-28 Carolyn Bates          |
| 12-07 Diane Shank           | 12-17 Veronica Murph         | 12-28 Veronica Hadden        |
| 12-08 Robert Caldwell       | 12-17 Jeanne Wagner          | 12-28 Owen Jensen            |
| 12-08 Gertrude Hagen        | 12-17 Rebecca Webb           | 12-28 Shellie Smith-Martin   |
| 12-08 Barbara Hall          | 12-17 David Wilson           | 12-29 Carl McCormick         |
| 12-08 Margaret Jasper       | 12-18 Barbara (Barb) Tiry    | 12-29 Joan Ten Eyck          |
| 12-08 David Richardson      | 12-18 Donna Zuben            | 12-30 Karen Denney           |
| 12-08 Rex Schrimshaw        | 12-19 Paul Barco             | 12-30 Nancy Kau              |
| 12-08 Barbara Seidel        | 12-19 Mary Kelso             | 12-30 John Schoepp           |
| 12-08 Steven Taylor         | 12-19 Betty Martin           | 12-30 Richard Tolliver       |
| 12-08 Benita Watson         | 12-19 Linda Poe              | 12-31 Everett Barnett        |
| 12-08 Mark Wolf             | 12-19 Jim Shima              | 12-31 David Beazley          |
| 12-09 Peggy Campalong       | 12-20 Joann Fuller           | 12-31 Sonja Willis           |
| 12-09 Curt Norman           | 12-20 William Knight         |                              |
| 12-09 Wilford (Will) Perry  | 12-20 Pamela Laskey          |                              |