



President's Message

It's really getting hot around here. Our lawn went from dark green to half dead in about a week. It's getting to the point where I don't want to go outside unless there is a really good reason for it. But rest assured, as we enter the summer swelter ahead, the member events we have scheduled are worth braving the elements.

As always, a trip to Quaker Steak & Lube in Pinellas Park is worth it. One June 4, we will meet for another afternoon social- complete with a nice meal, lots of conversation, libations, door prizes and Al's great humor. Register now at: <https://form.jotform.com/251335894601155>

We are planning **Flashback to the '60s theme** for our June 18 luncheon. So dig out your tie-dyes and bell bottoms and relive those golden oldie days - now 60 years in the rear-view mirror. We promise a very nostalgic look back to life in Pinellas County. Please register now at: <https://form.jotform.com/251425984181158>

To make all this extra fun, please send us your favorite photos (of yourself) from the '60s. You can do that with the online form: <https://form.jotform.com/251074297367060>

In July, we will welcome **Josh Linker, Chief Meteorologist from Bay News 9**, to our luncheon on the 16th. Josh will give us his predictions about the 2025 hurricane season which has just begun and will stretch until the end of November. Based on our 2024 hurricane experience, this will be a great opportunity to take a peek at what kind of season we are heading for. Josh will also entertain any of your weather-related questions.

In August, we take a break from our normal monthly schedule - NO luncheon or social in August. However, we have planned a **Casino Party for Wednesday, August 20** at Banquet Masters (in the smaller room) from 2 - 5 pm. This event is for seasoned gamers as well as newbies who want to learn the ropes of casino games. We will have Blackjack, Craps, Roulette, Texas Hold'em and slot machines. All attendees will receive the same number of chips at the start, and the top 3 chip stacks at the end will get a prize along with bragging rights for the rest of the year. Attendance will be limited, so please register now:

<https://form.jotform.com/251426224950150>



MVA in the Community



Parter School Update by Dr. Gloria Hill



On May 22nd, on behalf of MVA, I received the award for generosity, kindness, and a quick response to the needs of students at Morgan Fitzgerald Middle School (better known as the "Phantoms"), our school partner. They are a "Title One School" because of the family income per student. I just learned that there are more students at this school in foster care than any other in the county. Needless to say, their needs are many.

Some of you were able to share some of your leftover funds. That sharing has allowed me to procure much needed tools and equipment for the school. Studies have shown that providing students with the right tools is highly beneficial for their academic and personal development. Access to proper educational resources, technology and support can enhance their learning experience, foster creativity, improve comprehension and retention of knowledge, and build essential skills for the future.

This recognition was given by Principal Hawthorne to our team during an 8th Grade Ceremony for students, parents and teachers. These eighth graders will be moving on to High School. For most of them that is Pinellas Park High School, just across the street.

My intent is to continue our skill building efforts at the High School.





For Our Members



It was another thoroughly enjoyable afternoon at the Early Bird Dinner Theater on Thursday, May 15. 54 MVA members enjoyed the fine buffet dinner and a play called, "Social Security." These theater outings are among the most popular member events each year. Special thanks to our Manager of Member Events, Wendy Hugar!





First Wednesday Social May 7, 2025





First Wednesday Social May 7, 2025



Jane & Dennis Willis



Ron & Jodi Mason



Donna & Mike Seibel



Dave Cox, Darrell Schreiber



Teri & Michael Godfrey



Gayle Smith, John Voissem



Marsha & Mark Barlow



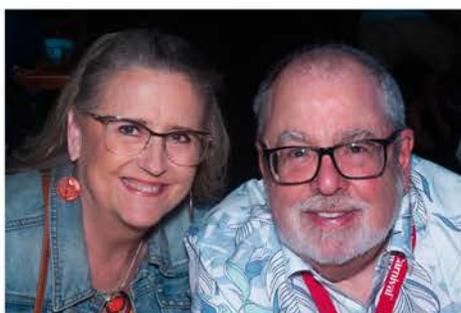
Loni Wellington, John Schiffgen



Steve & Margaret Simmons



Bob Ranallo, Gloria Whitfield



Deb & Thom Dupper



Tom & Bea Conner



First Wednesday Social May 7, 2025



George Suther, Patty Marchand



Al Olsen, Gloria Whitfield, Gail Olsen



Harry Blackiston, Robin Lewis, Bill Martin



Larry Trefz, Jack Freeman



The Shirleys (Murphy and Bowers)



Frank & Argie Easton



Pat Keegan



Howard Howe



Helen Malzahn



Carol Janney



Jerry Dangler





First Wednesday Social May 7, 2025



Al Shields



Marge Lynch



Bob Ranallo



Betty Held



Jim Hansen



Genevieve Urbanski



Dave Donnelly



Bonnie Williams



Dick Malzahn



Wanda Beasley



Bob Kay



Carol Bailey



First Wednesday Social May 7, 2025



Jim McCormick



Barbara Brash



Jim Acosta



Danielle Rasmussen



Mark Wolf



Lorraine Wert



Larry Harper



Fran Kay



Donald Brash



Cheryl Bartel



Roddy King





First Wednesday Social May 7, 2025



Andrew Rasmussen



Betsy King



Terry Miller



Wanda Beasley



Jeff Ring



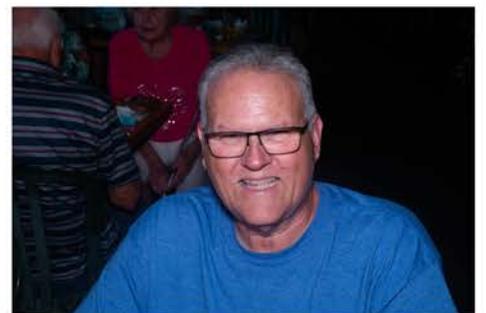
Vivian O'Dell



Bryan Martinez



Gerry Sturm



David Hadsock



Sherry Rasmussen



Inverted Paul Kraemer



WELCOME

To Fabulous
Casino Parties
of
Tampa Bay

For Our Members



CASINO

How about an afternoon at the casino? Texas Hold 'em poker, craps, blackjack and roulette are on the menu and the buy-in is just your MVA membership. Nothing to lose and a great time to win! We have contracted with Casino Parties of Tampa Bay to bring their casino equipment and operators to Banquet Masters on Wednesday, August 20, from 2 to 5 pm. This is a great opportunity for seasoned gambling professionals to build their chip stacks. It's also an opportunity for non-gamblers to learn all about the casino games from the professionals on hand. At the start of the party, each attendee will receive the same amount of chips. At the end of the party, the members with the top three chip amounts will receive gifts along with bragging rights for the rest of the year. We will serve some finger food (not the luncheon we are used to at Banquet Masters). You can reserve your spot now at:

<https://form.jotform.com/251426224950150>

So put on your game face and let's have some casino fun. **This event is in lieu of a monthly luncheon in August.**





A Blast from the Past



Honeywell, I Remember A Honeyweller For 44 Years

As a model maker in the 4th Avenue Plant in Minneapolis, **Don Ziebarth** recalled one of his favorite memories.

"It was the day Bette Davis toured the plant. Her husband worked with us and he brought her in to show her around," Don said.

That was 1942. Honeywell had done \$60 million of business, had roughly 5,000 employees, and Franklin D. Roosevelt was leading the country out of the depression. Harold W. Sweatt, whose father was a founder of the company, was President at that time.

Honeywell bought the Champion Motor Plant in 1949, and Don, after 5 years in the Navy, returned to Honeywell as the Aero Division's assistant foreman in the model shop.

In 1951 another building, a block from Champion, was bought and while employees were moving in, they were hit with "one of the worst blizzards in some time," Don said. "Some of them were snowbound and had to spend the night."

Honeywell kept expanding. Don was named foreman of the model shop in 1952.

During 1956, a decision was reached to build inertial navigation systems in St. Petersburg. Don was the model shop superintendent then and accepted a similar position in Florida.

Don and 115 other employees were ready to move to Florida when the contract was cancelled, leaving 100 people momentarily displaced from jobs. "A lot of them had sold their homes and were living in motels," Don said.

In 1957, a building just short of 100,000 square feet was constructed, known now as Plant 1.

"Before that, we were in the Palm Breeze building at this same location that was a tin shed, and when it rained you couldn't hear the phone ringing," he said.

The following year, Honeywell won seven of nine major contracts awarded in space activity, and expansion continued at the Clearwater location.

In 1970, Don was part of a study team to choose a number of space programs (one of which being the Shuttle) to move from Minneapolis to Florida bringing with them 300 or so families.

"During Vietnam, we were building electronic components for fuzes. There were 1,000 people in Plant 1 who were assembling and testing components. It was a totally successful three or four years of production," Don said.

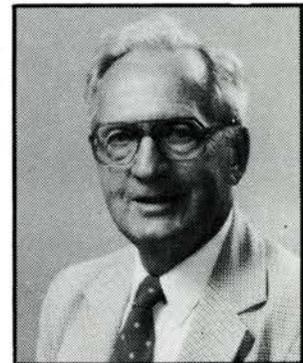
On that fuze line, "you could hear Christmas carols as loud as anything. People would skip breaks to make quotas, even when the contract was nearly finished," he said.

"It gave us a real shot in the arm, a forerunner of the team programs of today."

Don believes the next five years will be "the most challenging, and exciting five years the Division has ever seen. I'm sorry I won't be around. There will be technical challenges, growth, and opportunity," Don said. Don will retire this month.

But at least Don will have some time to watch a few old Bette Davis movies now and then.

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Don Ziebarth

Something For The Kids, Too! Kid Art Contest



Monthly Luncheon May 21



Lots going on at the May luncheon. 90 members and guests celebrated Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and Memorial Day. In addition, we presented a \$10,000 check to our 2025 scholarship winner and a \$6,000 check to Family Support Services. Finally, we were able to donate a truckload of school supplies to FSS for use by foster children in the Tampa Bay area. All in all, a great day for the MVA and the community.



Deb Dupper honors Bonnie Williams, MVA's most senior mom



Jaclyn Citerella, FSS Supervisor, China Hall, Speaker, Dr. Gloria Hill, MVA Community Service Manager,



Scholarship Committee Members -Dr. Gloria Hill, Howard Howe, Faith Krahrmer, Scholarship winner -Nikhil Rawana, Scholarship Committee Chair - Carol Jamney



A truckload of school supplies - courtesy MVA





Monthly Luncheon May 21





Monthly Luncheon May 21



*Michael & Teri Godfrey, Wendy Hugar,
Tom & Bea Conner*



*Scholarship winner -Nikhil Rawana,
Gloria Hill, Proud Mama Rawana*



*Howard Howe, Shirley Murphy,
Gemevieve Urbanski, Larry Harper
Carol & Clive Bailey*



*Lorraine Wert, Marge Lynch,
Bonnie Williams, Pat Keegan*



*Celebrating Jack Freeman's (in the hat)
77th birthday*



*Dennis & Jane Willis, Loni Wellington,
Jo Ketring, John Schiffgen*



Jane Willis, Loni Wellington, Jo Ketring



Tom & Bea Conner



Thom & Deb Dupper



Jan & Bob Friend



Greg & Julie Zajdel



Teri & Michael Godfrey



Monthly Luncheon May 21



George Suther, Eldridge Bradley



Loni Wellington, John Schiffgen



Jerry & Karyn Klos



Deb Dupper, Mary Reffelt



Karyn Klos, Cheryl McAvoy



Clive & Carol Bailey



Bill Martin, Dennis Willis



Sam & Sandy Janofsky



Richard & Mary Reffelt



Bob Canistraro, Jerry Klos



Greg & Julie Zajdel



Gayle Smith, John Voissem



Monthly Luncheon May 21



Margaret & Steve Simmons



Paul & Faith Krahrmer



Dennis & Jane Willis



Ben & Emilie Carter



Jerry & Karyn Klos



Clive & Carol Bailey



Al Parisi



Helen Malzahn



Bill Naabe



Masako Shannon



Paul Krahrmer



Rosemary Bradley



Monthly Luncheon May 21



Carol Jamney



Hendrick Gelderloos



Genevieve Urbanski



Larry Trefz



Mary Reffelt



Howard Howe



Jo Ketring



Dave Donnelly



Faith Krahrmer



Ben Carter



Wendy Hugar





Monthly Luncheon May 21



Stephanie Puffer



John Schiffgen



Betsy King



Artie Martin



Gloria Hill



Greg Zajdel



Cheryl McAvoy



Bob Canistraro



Cheryl Bartel



Roddy King



Deb (life of the party) Dupper



Frank Easton



Monthly Luncheon May 21



Jack Ptacek



Argie Easton



Bryan Martinez



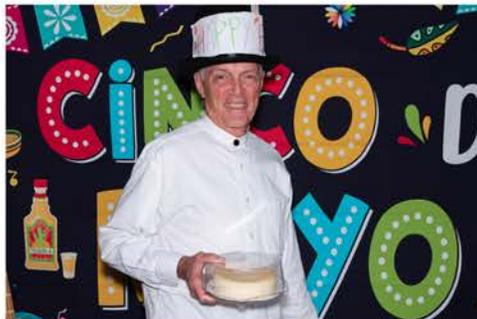
Gloria Whitfield



Dick Malzahn



Julie Zajdel



Jack "77" Freeman



Loni Wellington



Richard Reffelt



Jane Willis



Larry Harper





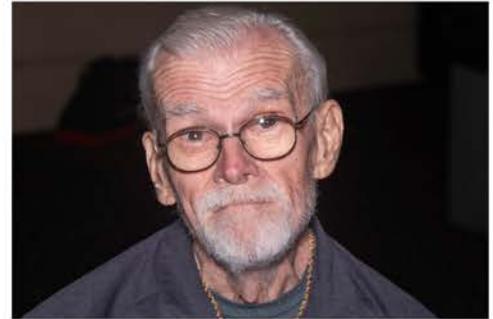
Monthly Luncheon May 21



Vivian O'Dell



Loni Wellington



Larry Shannon

It's a '60s Thing

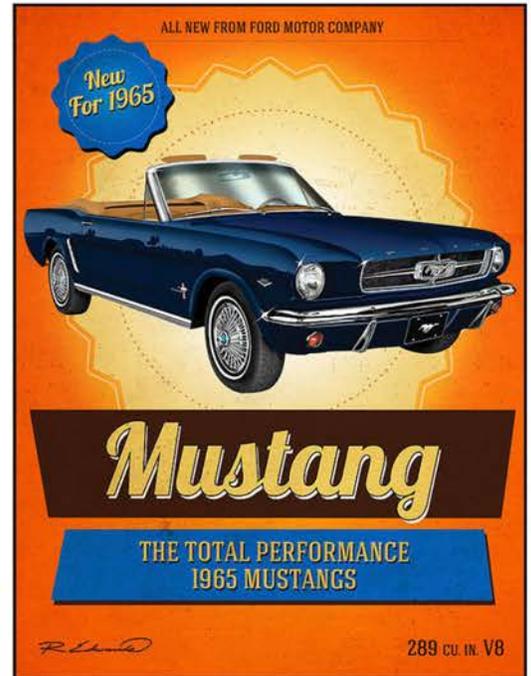
What a different world we lived in during the tumultuous 1960s. From the Cuban Missile Crisis to the Lunar Landing, the decade was one of the most eventful in this country's history.

So what were you doing in the '60s? High school, military or just being a kid. Our June luncheon aims to take all of us back to a time when gasoline was 15¢ a gallon and you could get a full meal at McDonalds for under a buck.

Part of our celebration will be a photo montage of our members as they were in the 1960s. You can get into the act by using the online form to upload your favorite selfie '60s photo: <https://form.jotform.com/251074297367060>

All photos must be uploaded by June 11.

So sock it to me!





Happy April Birthday from MVA!



- 06/01 John Voissem
- 06/02 Katrina Pershing
- 06/03 Thom Dupper
- 06/04 Donna Hansen
- 06/05 Howard Howe
- 06/14 Bryan Martinez
- 06/14 Gene Ward
- 06/15 John Schiffgen
- 06/16 Faith Krahmer
- 06/21 Ronald Lindquist
- 06/23 Bea Conner
- 06/26 Robert Dalton
- 06/27 Lynn Neri

