



Deb Dupper says "thank you" to the volunteers who help with every aspect of member events. Vivian O'Dell, Carol Bailey, Lorraine Wert, Marilyn Ruga, Pat Keegan, Shirley Bowers, Mary Reffelt, Bea Conner, Teri Godfrey, Shirley Murphy and Deb Dupper.

President's Message

When I was a little boy, I can remember my mother telling me that the older you get, the faster time flies by. Truer words were never spoken. Where did 2023 go? How fast will 2024 spin by? Our Christmas party was a blast. Lots of prizes, lots of folks recognized for service and a great lunch.



A whole lot of folks came decked out in some pretty ugly holiday sweaters. Congratulations to Bea Conner for taking the first place prize. As always, Deb did a fabulous job of bringing out the cheer and leading the group in some happy Christmas carols. We also played a game of Left/Right revealing some interesting Minnreg history along the way. Special thanks to Wendy Hugar who has done a terrific job of expanding our member events all year long. Great things are in store for the MVA in 2024.



Volunteers are the lifeblood of any organization. It is true that 10% of the members do 90% of the work. Starting a holiday tradition, we named our "All Star" team of volunteers for the 2023 year. Pictured here are Gerry Sturm, Mary Reffelt, Shirley Bowers, Shirley Murphy and Bea Conner. Not pictured is Carol Janney. As we move into the new year, my hope is to see more MVA members pitching in to make this the best year ever.



Upcoming Luncheon Program Information



January Luncheon Program

We will hear from a local community group about the horrible reality of human trafficking in the Tampa Bay area. Contrary to what many of us think, the problem of human trafficking is not limited to any one geographical area or segment of our population.

Our young people are especially vulnerable due to the proliferation of social media.

According to their website (<https://www.stopthemovement.org>):

This idea started after a twelve month research project to determine the severity of the issue of human trafficking is in Tampa Bay. Multiple organizations across the spectrum were consulted. Relationships were formed. Gaps were identified. And Stop the Movement was born. Our desire is for this organization to be community of activists that believe that change is possible in our lifetime, that people deserve basic human rights, and that none are free until all are free.

We Exist to Stop Exploitation and Human Trafficking In Tampa Bay

Child Sexual Abuse Images 32 Million CyberTipline Reports	Florida Ranks 3rd In Reported Cases of Human Trafficking	The Average Age of A Victim 12-14 In Most Cases	Reports Made in 2020 1,901 How Many Weren't?
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The speakers have asked that we submit questions prior to the luncheon date so they can address them in the presentation.

Please send your questions or comments to info@minnregs.com

This is also a good opportunity to invite others who might be interested in this topic. As always, guests are welcome at all our functions.

2024 MVA Meeting Dates (socials, luncheons and staff meetings)

January	3 social, 10 staff meeting, 17 luncheon
February	7 social, 14 staff meeting, 21 luncheon
March	6 social, 13 staff meeting, 20 luncheon
April	3 social, 10 staff meeting, 17 luncheon
May	1 social, 8 staff meeting, 15 luncheon
June	5 social, 12 staff meeting, 19 luncheon
July	3 social, 10 staff meeting, 17 luncheon
August	7 social, 14 staff meeting, no luncheon
September	4 social, 11 staff meeting, 18 luncheon
October	2 social, 9 staff meeting, 16 luncheon
November	6 social, 13 staff meeting, 20 luncheon
December	4 social, 11 staff meeting, 18 holiday luncheon



All socials are held at Fat Cat Tavern 3665 E Bay Dr, Largo. Doors open at 4 pm.

All staff meetings are held at the MVA office, 12467 62nd St. N. #103 in Largo. Start time 2:30 pm.

All luncheons are held at Banquet Masters, 13355 49th St N, Clearwater. Doors open at 11 am.

The MVA Board of Directors usually meets every quarter at the MVA office. Time and Dates TBA



First Wednesday Social December 6, 2023



These events just keep getting better and better as evidenced by the growing number of MVA members who are attending each month. We invade the Fat Cat Tavern in Largo every first Wednesday at 4 pm for a few hours of fun, fellowship, food and prizes. Host Al Shields always makes everyone feel right at home.



George Suther, Patti Marchand



Karyn & Jerry Klos



Steve & Margaret Simmons



Dennis & Jane Willis



*Al Shields, Shirley Bowers, Vivian O'Dell,
Bea Commer, Shirley Murphy, Carol Bailey*



Donald & Barbara Brash



Faith Krahmer, Sandy Janofsky



Artie Martin, Glenn Nicholson



Shirley Bowers, Shirley Murphy



Vivian O'Dell, Al Shields



Stephanie Puffer, Betty Held



First Wednesday Social December 6, 2023



Jerry Dangler, Bob Dalton, Hendrik Gelderloos



Patti Jo Clayton, Wendy Hugar



Shirley Murphy, Fat Cat Server



Larry Trefz, Jack Freeman, Al Shields



Larry & Masako Shannon



*Shirley Bowers, Vivian O'Dell,
Bea Conner, Shirley Murphy*





First Wednesday Social December 6, 2023



Jo Ketring, John Schiffgen



Thom & Deb Dupper



Bea & Tom Conner



Ron & Jody Mason



Marilyn Ruga



Mark Barlow



Wendy Hugar



Artie Martin



Betty Held



Bob Dalton



Pat Keegan



Marge Lynch



First Wednesday Social December 6, 2023



Andrea Shields



Jack Ptacek



Jean Miller



Thom Dupper



Carol Bailey



Sam Janofsky



Wendy Hugar



Clive Bailey



Gloria Whitfield



Stephanie Puffer



Bea Conner





MVA in the Community 2023



Every mid-December, Angels Against Abuse fills the auditorium at Pasadena Community Church with holiday gift bags that get distributed to over 300 foster children in Pinellas County. Each bag has the name of the child and is filled with items on that child's wish list. Angel volunteers shop for each item using funds contributed by local individuals and organizations. **MVA has contributed \$18,400** over the past two years to support this and other Angel activities in the community. We can all be proud that those Angel dollars are hard at work brightening the lives of area foster children.



We donated 100 each of socks, tooth brushes, chap stick, shaving kits, nail clippers, lotion, deodorant, razors, combs, shampoo & conditioner to the C.W. Bill Young Veterans Hospital:



Eats only organic, exercises every day to live to be 90...

Never visits 90 year old grandmother



If evolution is true...

Why do mothers still have only two hands?



MVA in the Community 2023



School partnership: Morgan Fitzgerald Middle School



MVA continues its partnership with a visit to Morgan Fitzgeralds Middle School to deliver much needed school supplies and serving coffee and Danish to the faculty and staff on the last day of school before the holiday break. Pictured above are Dr. Gloria Hill, MVA VP of Community Service, Lisa Ohlemanni, MTSS Coordinator and Dr. Ija Hawthorne, Principal.



The MVA were at it again - ringing Christmas bells for the Salvation Army at the Publix on Belcher and Gulf-to-Bay in Clearwater on Thursday, December 6. Carol and Clive Bailey assumed the leadership of this project and carried forward the relationship started by Ron Rasmussen many years ago. *On the left, Wendy Hugar and Patty Jo Clayton. On the right, Karyn Klos and Teri Godfrey.*





Christmas Party December 20, 2023



Lots of ugly sweaters, left/right game, Christmas carols, door prizes galore - a good time was had by the 100 MVA members who attended the Christmas party at Banquet Masters. What a great way to wrap up a very successful 2023. Welcome 2024!



The participants in the ugly sweater contest



Clive & Carol Bailey, Jody & Ron Mason, John Delich, Howard Howe



Barbara Harvey, Clara Aucker, John Schiffgen, Steve Jones, Loni Wellington, Jo Ketring



Gloria Whitfield, Bonnie Williams, Pat Keegan



Ron Mason, Howard Howe, John Delich



Dr. Gloria & Francis Hill



Marge Lynch, Shirley Murphy, Marilyn Ruga



Barbara Harvey, Clara Aucker



Ann & Clyde Schreiner, Bob Canistraro



I changed my password to "incorrect." so when I log in with the wrong password the computer tells me "Your password is incorrect."



Christmas Party December 20, 2023



Randy Kittle (AV guy), Betty Held



Bryan Martinez, Wendy Hugar



Loni Wellington, Jo Ketring



Donald & Barbara Brash



Bob & Jan Friend



Al & Gail Olsen



Gloria Whitfield, Jim Acosta



Margaret & Steve Simmons



Jody & Ron Mason



Gayle Smith, John Voissem



Richard & Mary Reffelt



Bob Canistraro, DC Stevenson



Christmas Party December 20, 2023



We show our honor and respect for the flag as we salute our military veterans



Patsy & Dick Rohrs



Bea & Tom Conner



Shirley Murphy, Howard Howe



Marge Lynch, Marilyn Ruga



Larry & Masako Shannon



Clyde & Ann Schreiner



Wendy Hugar, Tom Conner



John & Shirley Bowers





Christmas Party December 20, 2023



Deb & Thom Dupper



Betty Held, Mary Reffelt



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



Lots of prizes!



Patty Jo Clayton



Jack Freeman



Hendrik Gelderloos



Marge Lynch



Dave Donnelly



Bonnie Williams



Bryan Martinez



Artie Martin



Happy Birthday from MVA!



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 01-01 Jean Carrabotta | 01-08 Virginia Vignali | 01-22 Robert Capuro |
| 01-01 Otto Coldiron | 01-08 Robert Watson | 01-22 Betty (Jean) Logston |
| 01-01 Roger Ertsgaard | 01-09 Bernice Campbell | 01-22 Martha Sparks |
| 01-01 Sherrie Graff | 01-09 John Forslund | 01-22 Ed Webb |
| 01-01 Kimberly (Kim) Johnson | 01-09 Don Kelso | 01-23 Matti Kert |
| 01-01 Louis Lutz | 01-09 Richard La Luzerne | 01-23 Brenda Miller |
| 01-01 Sharon Mclendon | 01-10 M. Boudreau | 01-24 Tom Conner |
| 01-01 Judy Merritt | 01-10 Ron Cender | 01-24 James Crawford |
| 01-01 Jacqueline Morgan | 01-10 Noel Morell | 01-24 Francis James |
| 01-01 Peggy Olmsted | 01-10 Carleton Toelken | 01-24 Alice Poppler |
| 01-02 Dorris Beecher | 01-11 Christina Blomberg | 01-24 Martha Post |
| 01-02 Louisa Burch | 01-11 Dorothy Johnson | 01-24 Barbara Silvera |
| 01-02 Peter Tibault | 01-11 Stephanie Puffer | 01-24 Karen Simon |
| 01-02 Sandra Walling | 01-11 Darrell Schreiber | 01-24 Stephen (Steve) Smith |
| 01-03 Alice Blandford | 01-11 Judith Stuebs | 01-24 Helen Younskevicius |
| 01-03 Ernest (Ernie) Bolliger | 01-13 Linda Baker | 01-25 Michael (Mike) Godfrey |
| 01-03 Ronald (Falstaff) Folse | 01-13 James Beneyfield | 01-25 Marjorie Smetana |
| 01-03 Wayne Olmsted | 01-13 Elizabeth Gessler | 01-26 James Sr Campbell |
| 01-03 Jim Stone | 01-13 John Hood | 01-26 Robertine DeFelix |
| 01-04 Sara Blizzard | 01-13 Ingrid Jones | 01-26 James Gibson |
| 01-04 E. Gaylor | 01-13 Vickie Maxam | 01-26 James Kruck |
| 01-04 Michael Pilver | 01-13 Donald Papke | 01-27 Louis Cason |
| 01-04 Rachel Rennaker | 01-15 Therese Frechette | 01-27 Eric Kriby |
| 01-04 Michael (Mike) Richards | 01-15 Anthony (Tony) Masey | 01-28 Abigail Almer |
| 01-04 Dennis Willis | 01-15 Jerome Rogers | 01-28 Bobbie Hoopes |
| 01-05 Elena Hoel | 01-15 John Vassalo | 01-28 Angel Otero |
| 01-05 Judy Moses | 01-16 David Brown | 01-28 John Stephens |
| 01-05 Esther Rosewall | 01-16 Joann Dunlap | 01-29 Joan (Joan) Cole |
| 01-06 Edward Brown | 01-16 Sue Foster | 01-29 Jacolynn Wyllie |
| 01-06 Jill Graetz | 01-17 Betty (Chris) Blood | 01-30 Peggy Allen |
| 01-06 Beverly Green | 01-17 Gerald Coffey | 01-30 Martina Eckard |
| 01-06 Robert Hadden | 01-17 Henry Debona | 01-30 Gloria Michurski |
| 01-06 Donna Joldersma | 01-17 Delores Engelken | 01-30 Josephine (Jo) Phillips |
| 01-06 William Logan | 01-17 Joseph Lacki | 01-30 Barbara Schulte |
| 01-06 Anthony Polito | 01-18 Marsha Barlow | 01-30 Janice Todd |
| 01-06 Wesley Sewell | 01-18 Linda Hewitt | 01-30 Robert (Bob) Turner |
| 01-06 Jack Smetzer | 01-18 Barbara Vogel | 01-31 Thomas Borree |
| 01-06 Carolyn Tucker | 01-19 Natalie Adkins | 01-31 John Dillon |
| 01-07 Marie Brown | 01-19 David (Dave) Conley | 01-31 Mary Fellerman |
| 01-07 Joanne (Joni) Byland | 01-19 Norma James | 01-31 Stephen Merritt |
| 01-07 Bradford Clough | 01-19 Kathleen Mello | 01-31 Donald (Don) Miller |
| 01-07 William. (Bill) Dobson | 01-19 Linda Tredo | 01-31 Betty Miller |
| 01-07 Peggy Wollitz | 01-20 Kathleen (Kathy) Barry | 01-31 Joyce Saxon |
| 01-07 Ernst Wurster | 01-20 Nancy Leiser | 01-31 J. Stultz |
| 01-08 Beth Berglund | 01-20 W. Lovelace | 01-31 Harry Thomas |
| 01-08 Loyce Ostravage | 01-21 Margaret Coffey | 01-31 Vallee (Val) Weaver |
| 01-08 Suzanne Sowada | 01-21 John Delich | |
| 01-08 Lorraine Tierney | 01-21 Clifford Johnson | |