



*Wishing you the
happiest of new years
in 2026*



President's Message

Welcome to 2026! What a great year 2025 has been for this organization. We continue to host over 100 members and guests for our Socials and Luncheons. Throughout the year, MVA members continue to strengthen bonds that began to those many years ago at the big red H.

I was explaining to one of our luncheon guests the history of the Minnregs. Today's MVA bears little resemblance to the original Minnregs, founded in Minneapolis over 100 years ago.

A fraternal society organized April 14, 1925 by and for veteran employees of Minneapolis Honeywell Regulator Company for the purpose of creating good fellowship among members and other employees to provide and encourage efficiency, fairness, good character and thrift. To work for a better understanding between employer and employees and through good example and advice, to instill in all a feeling of responsibility and fairness, and in a broader sense to teach and apply the principle of the Golden Rule.

And to their successors this chapter is to be named Minnreg Veterans Association of Florida and ...affixed the seal of the Minnreg Veterans Association this 17th day of Jan 1958.

Well, this MVA is NOT your father's Minnregs. The original Minnregs was a men-only group with a rather extensive vetting process for potential members. Fraternities used to call this "hazing." Many are the stories of grown men carrying around blocks of wood in an effort to obtain members' signatures. Many are the stories of initiation rituals that may not be appropriate to detail here. Many are the stories of Friday night adventures in and around the old Minnreg Hall - alcohol may have been involved.

Today's MVA is proudly made up of men **and** women whose only connection was they all called HI home sometime in the past. We are laser focused on providing continuing fellowship opportunities for our members and support to our local communities through volunteerism, monetary contributions and school partnerships.



MVA in the Community Special Needs Holiday Party



Before the pandemic, the Honeywell Retirees Club sponsored a holiday meal for seniors living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. But logistics and safety concerns made it impossible to continue. So last year we reached out to the special needs community and decided to partner with an organization (Always Promoting Independence - API) that manages group homes for special needs adults. We assembled a group of volunteers and worked with the API staff to host a holiday party for their residents. This is truly one of the best examples of MVA impacting the local community. On Saturday, December 6, these folks (almost 100 in total) were treated to a fine dinner at Banquet Masters, a live DJ for lots of dancing, and a gift bag for every resident. In addition, Paul Krahmer, our staff photographer used an instant camera to give each attendee a photographic reminder of their event. The staff at API tell us that the residents look forward to this event all year with great enthusiasm. Pure, unashamed joy was the order of the day - reflected in the smiling faces and energetic dance moves.



MVA Volunteer Corps:

Back Row (from left):

Shirley Murphy, Faith Krahmer, Vivian O'Dell, Brian Pershing, Terri Bremer, Shirley Bowers, John Bowers, Teri Godfrey, Tom Conner, Bea Conner, Wendy Hugar, Thom Dupper, Katrina Pershing

Front Row: (from left)

DJ Wiggles, PJ Clayton, Gloria Hill, Deb Dupper



MVA in the Community



Special thanks go out to Clive and Carol Bailey for heading up the Salvation Army Bell Ringers for the 6th year. The MVA volunteers worked shifts of 1 hour on December 5 at the Publix on Belcher and Bay Drive in Largo. The group collected \$502.78 - not bad for a day's work. That brings the 6-year total to \$2820.00. Most important was speaking to various individuals who donated money and explained how the Salvation Army helped them at some point in their lives. These stories make the work even more meaningful in that ALL the money collected through bell ringers stays in the community to help families in need. The sign-up sheet for 2026 will be posted at the November luncheon next year. This may be the best one-hour you spend all next year!



DOING THE MOST GOODSM



Photo bomber, Mary Reffelt, Betty Held



Carol Bailey, Mary Reffelt, Deb Dupper, Betty Held



Wendy Hugar, PJ Clayton



John & Shirley Bowers, Shirley Murphy, Howard Howe



Fred Miller, Vivian O'Dell



Al Parisi, Clive Bailey



Deb & Thom Dupper



Shirley Murphy, Howard Howe



Monthly Luncheon December 17



All in all, it was a great celebration - full of fun, prizes, 104 MVA members and guests; a delightful meal that did not include turkey (by popular request) a christmas sweater contest (won by the Godfreys); lots of recognition for bell ringers and luncheon volunteers; videos reporting on the special needs Christmas party and the Angels Against Abuse Christmas gift event; a Christmas movie trivia contest; and a Christmas Carol lyric challenge; and two tables of infant and toddler diapers for the Angels. It was a great way to close out the MVA event year.



*Deb Dupper took time out to thank the volunteers who help set up and tear down the banquet room for luncheons throughout the year.
Deb Dupper, Clive Bailey, Lorraine Wert, Pat Keegan, Vivian O'Dell, Mary Reffelt,
Carol Bailey, Shirley Murphy, Teri Godfrey, Shirley Bowers, Bea Commer and John Bowers.*



*Prize winners for the next line Christmas song contest :
Bryan Martinez (l.) , John Schiffgen (c.) , Jacqueline Morgan (r.) and Karyn Klos (below left).*



Community Services Manager, Gloria Hill surveys the diapers headed for the Angels

Sandy Kearney, Angels Against Abuse founder & CEO, thanks MVA for its continuing support



Monthly Luncheon December 17



*Christmas sweater contestants:
Brian Pershing, Richard Reffelt, Vivian O'Dell, John Bowers, Teri & Michael Godfrey (the winners!),
Al Shields (still not a sweater!) and Deb Dupper*





Monthly Luncheon December 17



Bonnie Williams, Pat Keegan, Gloria Whitfield



Pat Keegan, Al Shields, Bonnie Williams



Jo Ketring, Tom & Bea Conner



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



Loni Wellington, John Schiffgen, Jo Ketring



Stephanie Puffer, Jack Ptacek, Jacqueline Morgan



Al Parisi, Gloria Whitfield, Jack Freeman



Monthly Luncheon December 17



Eldridge Bradley



Gloria Hill



Howard Howe



Wendy Hugar



Larry Harper



Betsy King



Ben Carter



Anne Burson



Dave Donnelly



Nancy Dalton



Dennis Willis



Anne Schreiner



Monthly Luncheon December 17



Terri Beamer



Tom Conner



Jo Ketring



Al Shields



PJ Clayton



Hendrik Gelderloos



Loni Wellington



Michael Godfrey



Jane Willis



Clive Bailey



Emilie Carter



Jim McCormick



Monthly Luncheon December 17



Helen Malzahn



John Schiffgen



Vivian O'Dell



Al Parisi



Carol Bailey



Jack Freeman



Teri Godfrey



Jeff Ring



Bea Conner



Larry Trefz



Ann Smith





Monthly Luncheon December 17



Bob Camistraro



Genevieve Urbanski



Clyde Schreiner



Barbara Brash



Roddy King



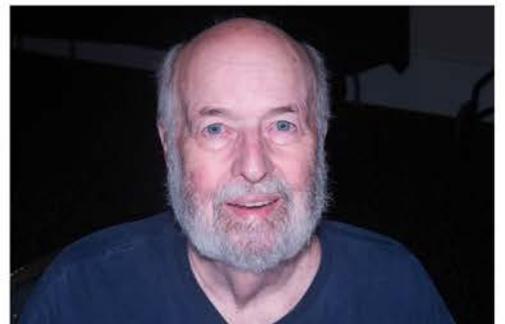
Patti Marchand



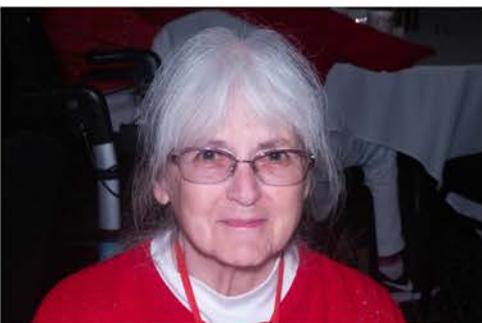
Bill Naabe



Sandy Janofsky



George Suther



Barbara Pothier



John Bowers



Jacqueline Morgan



Monthly Luncheon December 17



Masako & Larry Shannon



Gayle Smith, John Voissem



Al & Gail Olsen



Jerry & Karyn Klos



Frank & Argie Easton



Bob & Jan Friend



Margaret & Steve Simmons



Richard & Mary Reffelt



Greg & Julie Zajdel



Dennis & Jane Willis



Ben & Emilie Carter



John & Shirley Bowers



Monthly Luncheon December 17



Barbara Pothier, Jacqueline Morgan



Kathleen & John Samson



Bryan Martinez, Gloria Whitfield



Faith Kraher, Gloria Hill



Deb Dupper, Mary Reffelt



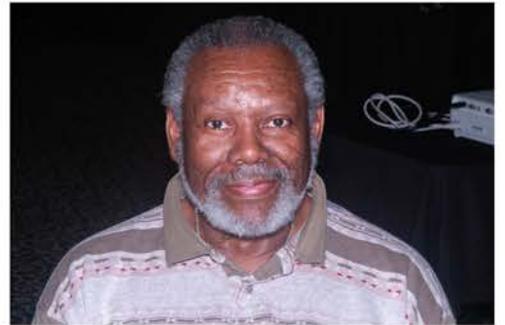
Shirley Bowers, Shirley Murphy



Katrina & Brian Pershing



Faith Kraher



Everett Jones



Sam Janofsky





Happy Birthday from MVA!



- 01/01 Roger Ertsgaard
- 01/01 Jacqueline Morgan
- 01/04 Dennis Willis
- 01/11 Stephanie Puffer
- 01/11 Darrell Schreiber
- 01/18 Marsha Barlow
- 01/21 John Delich
- 01/24 Tom Conner



For those who don't want Alexa
to listen in on all your conversations -
they're making a male version...



...it doesn't
listen to
anything.



Monthly Luncheon December 17



Stephanie Puffer



Bryan Martinez



Rosemary Bradley



Artie Martin



Kathie Hubbard



Fred Cutting

