

Spring!





President's Message

Hard to believe that one quarter of 2026 has flown by. Seems that time speeds up when we grow older. I can remember throwing a fit when I was 8 years old because I had to wait 2 days before our trip to Euclid Beach (an amusement park in Cleveland - now condos). Now I have to hold on with white knuckles as the days and weeks fly by in a blur. Well, enough of that.

April is a month that is hard to ignore. You know - April showers bring May flowers - It is truly the start of rebirth, as spring gets in full swing. We get past the horrible pollen and see our grass and gardens return to former glory. Baseball is in full swing with high hopes for post-season glory in every Major League city - even Cleveland. April is also usually the month when new year's resolutions finally die. Mine actually died much earlier, but I digress.

The MVA staff is putting together a great list of events for the summer months, including a Rays game and a picnic. We would love to hear your ideas for events we might not have considered. If you have one, please use the "Suggestions" form on the MVA website: <https://form.jotform.com/231204467596056>.

Please remember that the MVA website (www.minnregs.com) is your constant source of information about your organization. All past newsletters are posted there, with new editions posted by the first of every month. Registration forms for upcoming MVA events are all listed there.

Once again, it's time to marvel at this very vibrant organization we call MVA. It has been 6 years since the union between the original Minnregs and the Honeywell Retirees Club. The MVA events continue to attract 100+ members who openly welcome the opportunity to enjoy a few hours of fellowship every month. The thing that astonishes me is that this group has almost nothing in common with each other except the fact that somewhere in the distant past they shared hallways at HI.

We now have north of 175 active and associate members. We are adding new members at a pace we have not seen in the past. I believe that is because our members are sharing our story with other Honeywellers, inviting them to attend one of our events. These new members will ensure that the MVA will live on with new lifeblood, new ideas and new energy. Let's keep up the good work.



In Memoriam



Steve J Jones

DECEMBER 23, 1942 – MARCH 24, 2026



Steve J. Jones passed away peacefully, leaving behind a legacy of dedication, hard work, and love for his family.

Steve proudly served his country in the United States Navy. Following his service, he built a successful career in aerospace, contributing to Sperry Unisys and later retiring from Honeywell as a respected Program Manager and Skills Trainer. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Steve was a familiar face in the community as the owner and operator of “Steve’s Stuff” at the Oldsmar Flea Market for many years.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 55 years, Mary Ann Jones; his sister, Sheila Walker; Pat Vincent; and his parents, Jackson Porter “J.P.” and Zula Jones. Steve is survived by his children, Steve J. Jones Jr. (Tami), John Paul Jones (Gabi), Timothy Jones (Dara), and Celena Black. He was a proud grandfather to Jaxson, Mason, Tyler, Priscilla, Alycia, and Nicole, and a great-grandfather to Kali, Taylor, Hunter, and Harper.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Gonzalez Funeral Home, 7209 N. Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa, Florida 33614.

Graveside services will follow at 1:30 PM at Calvary Catholic Cemetery, 5233 118th Avenue North, Clearwater, Florida 33760.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Sun-coast Hospice.

Steve was a frequent participant at MVA functions over the years. His warm smile and kind words will be missed by all who knew him.



First Tuesday Social March 3



The second round of socials on Tuesday and at Eddie's Bar & Grill was a rousing success. 90 MVA members and guests met to enjoy each other's company, some liquid refreshment, a nice meal (from a special MVA menu) and lots of prizes. So the new socials schedule will continue into the summer, with next dates of April 7, May 6, June 2 and July 7. As always, we take the month of August off, but pick up again on September 1, October 6 and November 3. So mark your calendars and don't forget to use the online reservation form each time you plan to attend.





First Tuesday Social March 3



Dick & Patsy Rohrs



Mike & Martha Ross



Patty Marchand, George Suther



Margaret Simmons, Gloria Whitfield



Gail & Al Olsen



Shirley & John Bowers



Mary & Richard Reffelt



Teri & Michael Godfrey



Deb & Thom Dupper



Paul Kraemer, Anne Schreiner



Harry Blackiston, Robin Lewis



Andrea & Al Shields



First Tuesday Social March 3



Bea & Tom Conner



Wanda Beasley, Jerry & Karyn Klos



Thom Dupper, Andrea Shields



Teri Godfrey, Wendy Hugar



Artie Martin



Vivian O'Dell



Larry Shannon



Masako Shannon



Mike Ranallo



Gloria Hill





First Tuesday Social March 3



Faith Krahrmer



Mark Barlow



Sandy Janofski



David Hadsock



Carol Bailey



Roddy King



Marge Lynch



Joe Abrahamson



Bonnie Williams



John Schiffgen



Lorraine Wert



Dennis Willis



First Tuesday Social March 3



Wendy Hugar



Steve Simmons



Jane Willis



Jo Ketring



Clive Bailey



Deb Dupper



Sam Janofski



Loni Wellington



Howard Howe



Marsha Barlow



Bill Cullen



First Tuesday Social March 3



Jim Hansen



Jerry Dangler



Greg Nikles



Clyde Schreiner

A word about keeping your word. This organization runs on a strict annual budget and we try to provide the maximum value for every dollar spent.

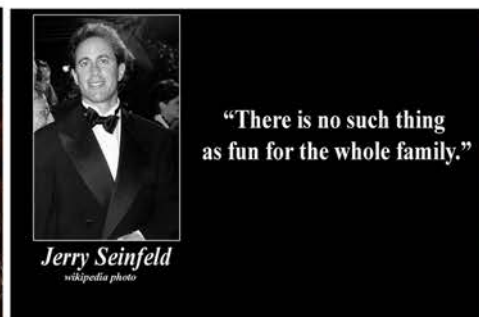
That's why we ask for reservations for all our sponsored events. These numbers provide us with the information necessary to live within our budget. In some cases, we must pre-pay for events in order to obtain tickets for events in the future. Such is the case with entertainment events at local venues. Recently we had a few no-shows at one of these events.



We understand that there are sudden circumstances that require canceling a reservation. In those cases a simple email to info@minnregs.com would allow us to adjust our forecast.

In this recent case, we had no notice, just no-shows at an event with a substantial waiting list for tickets. That's a waste of \$60 and a missed opportunity to move some folks off the waiting list.

Bottom line - if you are registered for an event and you are unable to attend - send an email to info@minnregs.com to let us know. That's good for everyone!



Be the first to email "Tucker" to info@minnregs.com



Spring Picnic Time!

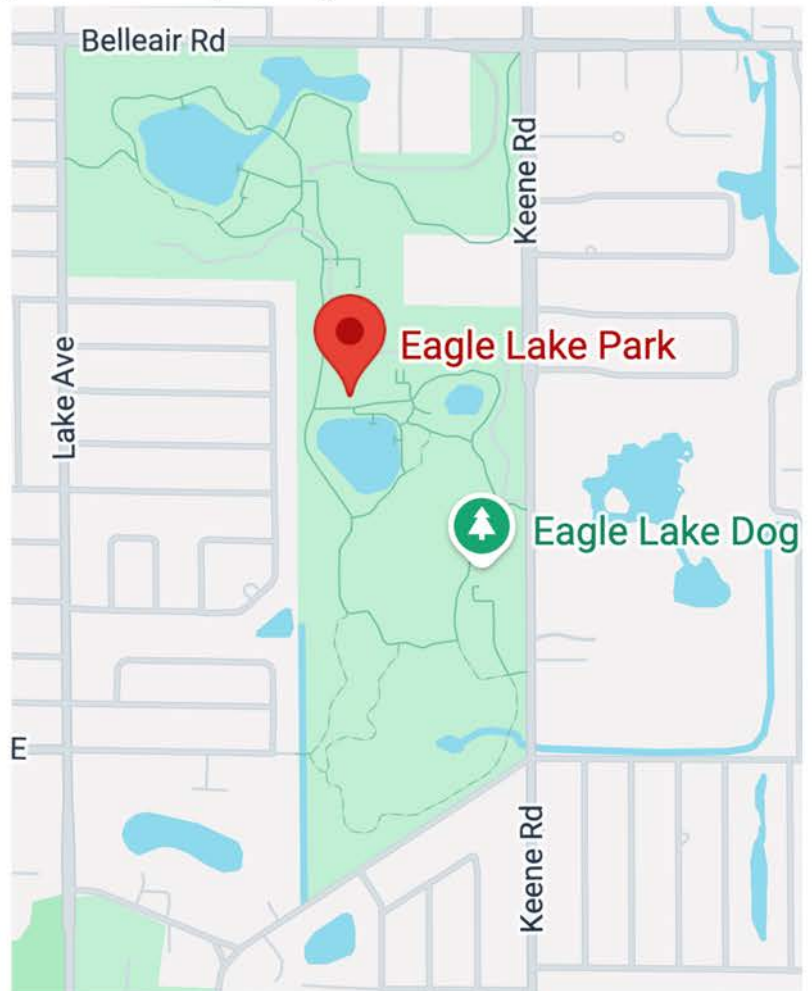


Spring has sprung. It's time to get outside and soak up some of this wonderful spring weather. What's the best way to do that? How about an MVA picnic with a bunch of your peeps, great food and outdoor games.

The spring picnic is set for Thursday, May 14 at Eagle Lake Park (Shelter #3). The event starts at 11 am.

MVA will provide the main course and all the setups. Each attendee is asked to bring a favorite dish to share - along with something to drink. (remember alcohol is NOT permitted in Pinellas County Parks.:-)

Please use the online reservation form so we know how to plan the food: <https://form.jotform.com/260825666458166>





Monthly Luncheon March 18



107! That's how many members and guests packed Banquet Masters on Wednesday, March 18. Conversations were lively and the lunch was a great meal of corned beef and cabbage in honor of St. Patrick's Day. We heard from member Roger Block talk about Native American artifacts and how they impacted their lives. As usual, lots of prizes and a few very bad jokes.



Remember this?





Monthly Luncheon March 18



Bea & Tom Comer, Wendy Hugar

Carol Bailey, Shirley Murphy, Artie Martin

Greg Zajdel, Carol Bailey, Richard Reffelt



Donald Brash, Anne Burson, Barbara Brash

Ken & Suzanne Francis, Julie & Greg Zajdel

*Lorraine Wert, Gloria Whitfield, Pat Keegan,
Bonnie Williams*



Monthly Luncheon March 18



Bob & Jan Friend



Gail & Al Olsen



Jane & Dennis Willis



Katrina & Brian Pershing



Gayle Smith, John Voissem



Margaret & Steve Simmons



Mary & Richard Reffelt



Thom & Deb Dupper



Shirley & John Bowers



Remember this?



Remember this?



"Today is the oldest you've ever been, and the youngest you'll ever be again."

Eleanor Roosevelt



Monthly Luncheon March 18



Donna & Fred Cutting



Julie Zajdel, Teresa Mickiewicz



Pau Krahrmer, Loni Wellington



Anne Burson, Barbara Brash



Paul Krahrmer, Cheryl McAvoy



Mary & Richard Reffelt



Vivian O'Dell



David Haddock



Donna Cutting



Brian Pershing



Marsha Barlow



Larry Shannon



Monthly Luncheon March 18



John Schiffgen



Wendy Hugar



Al Olsen



Argie Easton



Bob Kay



Betty Held



Frank Easton



Kathleen Sampson



Dick Malzahn



Terri Beamer



Beverly Whitely



Monthly Luncheon March 18



Anne Burson



Darrell Schreiber



Barbara Brash



Fred Miller



Artie Martin



Gloria Whitfield



Roger Block



Jan Friend



Clyde Schreiner



Wanda Beasley



Howard Howe



Monthly Luncheon March 18



Bill Martin



Gloria Hill



Larry Harper



Carol Janney



Bob Canistraro



Anne Schreiner



Donald Brash



Jacqueline Morgan



Bob Friend



Pat Keegan



Jeff Ring



Bonnie Williams



Monthly Luncheon March 18



Jo Ketting



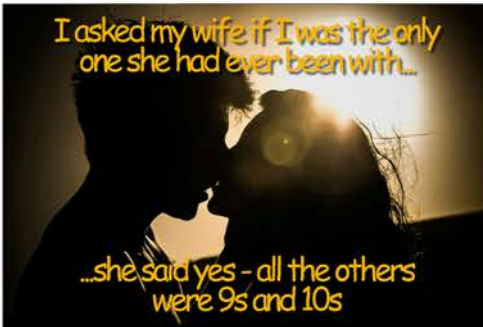
Hendrik Gelderloos



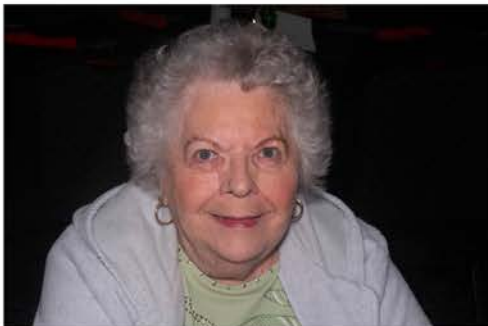
Carol Bailey



Larry Piper



Jerry Dangler



Helen Malzahn



Jim Hansen



Cheryl McAvoy



Dave Donnelly



Masako Shannon



George Suther



Monthly Luncheon March 18



Jack Freeman



Shirley Bowers



Michael Godfrey



Deb Dupper



Mark Barlow



Shirley Murphy



John Bowers

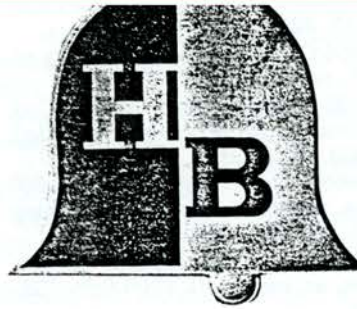




A Blast from the Past



SUMMER SHUTDOWN PARTY



WESTERN NITE



LUAU

HONEYBELLE WEEK SEPTEMBER 15-19

Each year the Honeybelles donate hundreds of hours of their time to provide enjoyable activities for all Honeywell employees.

In addition to these social events the Honeybelles collect food, empty medicine bottles and other usable items for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic. Other organizations that have benefited from their efforts are:

**Muscular Dystrophy Association
Hospice**

Join us in honoring the Honeybelles for a job well done.



CRUISES



CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN PARTY



CLOWNS



CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

Honeywell

CLEARWATER, FLORIDA



5th Anniversary



We will mark the 5th anniversary of luncheon meetings at Banquet Masters.

It occurred to me that some of you may not have been around when we made the transition to the new organization we now refer to as MVA.

So Sherman, set the wayback machine to 2020 and the old Minnreg Hall in Largo. We were in the middle of the Covid 19 pandemic. The Minnreg Hall was in need of several very expensive maintenance items and the Minnregs did not have sufficient resources to cover them. Up until the pandemic, they had been renting out the Hall to various groups to produce income.



BANQUET MASTERS

As we all remember, everything came to a grinding halt in 2020. Businesses were shut down and large meetings were prohibited. That left the Minnregs with the combination of an aging structure that needed significant repairs and no way to pay for them. So the Minnreg Board voted to place the Hall on the market and hope. 2020 was not exactly a prime time for real estate either. Even so, a few potential buyers expressed an interest in the building, but no deal was reached.

In August 2020, the Minnregs sold the Hall to a local commercial developer for \$2.4M and took back a 6-month lease to see if a flea market could be successful on the site. The Wagon Wheel flea market in Pinellas Park had just closed and it looked like a new flea market location might be a success in filling the void.

Long story short, after many weekends of getting up a O dark early to check in cranky vendors, taking temperatures of all incoming customers and vendors, working with impossible vendors, and not even breaking even - we pulled the plug and did not extend the lease.

We found a small office just across the street from the Hall, did some remodeling, and turned that into the new MVA clubhouse. We have been in our new location since April, 2021

We also needed to find a new location for our monthly events - socials and luncheons. Few local places could accommodate a group of our size. One that could - Banquet Masters - was a known commodity to any parent who had kids in sports. So in April, 2021, the MVA began a very successful relationship with Steve and the rest of the Banquet Masters crew. In that span of time, we have never been disappointed in the quality of the food or the service. So in April, we will say a peacial thanks to the staff at Banquet Masters as we plan for many more successful years together.



Upcoming Luncheon Speakers



Our April 15th luncheon speakers are Graci Tubbs (and her proud mom, Kadi,) founder of Operation Military Matters. Her remarkable story began when she was a fourth grader and developed a heart for American military personnel serving overseas. To date, the organization has sent over 13,000 packages to military all over the world.

Operation: Military Matters was started in November 2015, as part of a project for a gifted class by 9-year-old and fourth grader Graci Tubbs (now 20 and is a sophomore in college).

After hearing and seeing veterans speak at a school Veterans Day assembly, Graci felt the need to support our military and let the men and women sacrificing their lives for us, know people back home cared about them.

What started out as a school project collecting supplies from the community and sending care packages from home to the military overseas grew into a nonprofit.

In December 2015, Operation: Military Matters became a corporation and on March 16, 2016 became a 501 (c) (3).

Today, Graci speaks to civic organizations and the military to let them know about OMM. Her efforts help raise support and donations to continue sending care packages overseas to our military.

So far they have sent almost 13,000 care packages to our military all around the world and Graci has raised more than \$600,000 and more than one million dollars in in-kind donations.



Mom Kadi and Graci

Scan the QR code to access the Operation: Military Matters wish list on Amazon. Let's purchase enough goods to fill the next 100 boxes!





Upcoming Luncheon Speakers



Our May 20th luncheon speaker is Officer Joel Quattlebaum of the Largo Police Department's Senior Services Division. He will bring us up-to-date about the current state of senior scams and ripoffs circulating in our area.

Largo Police Department's Senior Services Division provides innovative community resources and interagency coordination to provide superior services to Largo seniors through community connections that can help to improve their quality of life as well as reduce crime and the fear of crime. Senior residents and caregivers may find themselves in the difficult position of facing various aging-related concerns such as healthcare problems, cognitive decline, homelessness and many others, and simply do not know where to turn. In these cases, LPD Senior Services may be able to help. Oftentimes there are community resources available that residents may not know about – LPD Senior Services can assist in navigating these challenges.

Officer Joel Quattlebaum has been a police officer with the City of Largo for the past 6 years. Officer Quattlebaum has served in several capacities within the Department to include Patrol, Problem Oriented Policing Unit, CISM Team, and also serves as a High Liability Instructor. He has received several awards to include both the LPD Agency Meritorious Service Award and Distinguished Service Award, Largo Chamber of Commerce Inspire Award, and numerous others. Officer Quattlebaum additionally serves in the United States Marine Corps as a Sergeant wherein he supports and augments national security interests through mission readiness and Unit training. Officer Quattlebaum has served the community as Largo PD's Senior Services Officer for the past 4 years. The position provides a rewarding opportunity to effect real-life positive changes in resident's quality of life and facilitate connecting struggling seniors with valuable community resources, as well as to protect vulnerable elderly residents from fraud and exploitation.





Happy Birthday from MVA!



- 04/03 Brian Pershing
- 04/03 Martha Ross
- 04/05 Robert Cannistraro
- 04/08 Brian Zoal
- 04/10 Scott Petrucci
- 04/10 Ronald Troanovitch
- 04/17 Lawrence Piper
- 04/19 Robert Hubbard
- 04/23 Steve Simmons
- 04/23 James Smith
- 04/25 Elizabeth King
- 04/26 Karyn Klos
- 04/27 Bill Ossola
- 04/29 Cathy Naabe
- 04/29 Marilyn Ruga
- 04/30 Betty Held

