



## SHAPE Officers' Association Newsletter February 2012

The 51st SOA Symposium  
Held at SHAPE  
A Memorable Event  
Even Better This Year 11-13 October 2012 !!!!

U.S. Chapter SOA Annual Banquet  
at Spates Center Ft. Myer  
30 April 2011

**A Real Classic**

The US Chapter SOA Florida Reunion  
18-19 Feb 2011  
Another Success!!  
Join Us In The Florida Sunshine 9-11 March 2012  
Enjoy a Cruise While in Florida!!

## **RECENT EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS**

### **1. 51<sup>st</sup> SOA Symposium and Reunion – SHAPE**

The 51<sup>st</sup> Reunion/Symposium was held 13-14 October 2011 in Casteau, Belgium. The agenda included:

Thursday 13 Oct Executive Committee (henceforth ExCom) meeting and Welcome Reception at Casteau Resort Hotel  
Friday 14 Oct General Assembly  
No Host Dinner at Ecole Provinciale d'Hotellerie

#### **Summary of Events:**

On Thursday, 13 October, and Friday, 14 October, the SHAPE Officers' Association held its Annual Symposium at SHAPE. It was the 51st occasion for former and present SHAPE Officers and their civilian equivalents to meet, exchange ideas and be informed about the present engagements of NATO and SHAPE.

This year's meeting had fewer participants than last year's 50<sup>th</sup> symposium, but the Executive Committee organized an attractive and interesting program. It was especially important, because the SOA and the ExCom had during the past year attempted to modernize the organization and adjust its aims and goals to the important developments and changes SHAPE and NATO had undergone during the last years.

The symposium started on Thursday afternoon with a meeting of the ExCom and the representatives of the American and German Chapters. Last minute adjustments were made to the agenda to be discussed during the General Assembly on Friday. After this important meeting, the members who had arrived from various countries in Europe and North America enjoyed a Happy Hour to renew old friendships and make new ones. Happy Hour was held in the Casteau Resort Hotel, where many of the members were lodged.

The main event started Friday morning in the SHAPE Club with the General Assembly. Some 60 members attended this important occasion - important, because decisions vital to the continued existence of the SOA had to be made.

With the resignation of General George A. Joulwan, US A, Ret. it was necessary to elect a new President. In accordance with the SOA constitution, the outgoing President proposed as new President, former SACEUR General James L. Jones, USMC, Ret. The ExCom nominated General Jones as candidate for President of the SOA to the General Assembly, which in turn elected him to be the new President.



Also important was the approval of the amended SOA constitution, which in its new version reflected the changes and developments undergone by SHAPE, NATO and the SOA. Acting chairman of the ExCom, LtCol Günter Bretschneider, DEU AF, Ret. presented the constitution to the General Assembly; pointed out the important changes; explained the process that led to the present version; and answered the questions put forward by the members present. The amended SOA Constitution was then accepted by an almost unanimous vote.

Two other important issues to be decided by the General Assembly were the new structures of annual dues and their implementation. Both issues were approved by a large majority.

The last question to be discussed was the creation of an SOA Scholarship fund, proposed by ExCom member Scott Sunquist. This 1.000 € Scholarship should be implemented in 2012 and be open to graduates of SHAPE schools and direct descendants of SOA members. The scholarship shall provide assistance in the advanced study of Languages, History, Political Sciences and International Affairs. The exact procedures for selecting candidates for the scholarship will be discussed by the ExCom during the first meetings in 2012.

After an enjoyable lunch with many of the SOA members in the SHAPE Club, the meeting continued in the afternoon with a briefing by ACO. The update gave information and explanation about ongoing NATO missions. This interesting briefing was followed by a presentation from Jack Haas about the development and employment of the new F-35 Lightning II, Joint Strike Fighter aircraft. This briefing gave considerable insight into the problems of conceiving, developing and building a system of this magnitude. Following end of session comments, the plenary session of the SOA Symposium 2011 concluded. The traditional official dinner followed in the evening.

Dinner was held in the Ecole Hôtelière Provinciale in Saint Ghislain. As expected from an institution of this caliber and quality, the food and wine excellent and the general presentation left nothing to be desired. Attendees spent an evening among friends in lively conversation and friendly exchange of thoughts. This ended the SOA Annual Symposium 2011. Everyone expressed the desire to continue in this manner and to follow the direction in which the General Assembly pointed and which the ExCom will execute during the coming months. All attendees aspire to making the SOA an important factor in the life of former and current SHAPIANS by making the organization more visible in the daily routine of SHAPE and involving more SHAPIANS in the undertakings of the New SOA.

Thanks to Jurgen Walter for providing this summary.

#### The General Assembly - 14 October 2011, 10.00 hours, SHAPE Club Hainaut Room

##### 1. Welcome Remarks

###### a. General Assembly decisions to be made:

- 1) Update of Membership Database
- 2) E-mail instead of hardcopy surface mail
- 3) Membership dues paid by all
- 4) Revision of Constitution

###### b. Membership Status Update

###### 1) 2010

- i. 1700+ members contacted by surface and electronic mail resulted in an estimated 381 active members
- ii. National totals: 186 US, 49 GE, 42 BE, 40 UK, 12 NL, 11 CA, 40 Others (AL, DE, FIN, FR, GR, IT, NO, PO, SWI, TU)
- iii. 292 life-time members ~ 76%

###### 2) 2011 Update

- i. 457 members in total (with email addresses)

- ii. National totals: 241 US, 56 GE, 47 BE, 43 UK, 12 NL, 12 CA, 10 IT, 36 Others (AL, CZ, DE, FIN, FR, GR, LU, NO, PO, SWI, TU)

## 2. Introduction of Executive Committee – serving until 2013



*SOA Executive committee: (from left to right): LTC Dariusz Kacperczyk, SHAPE PAO; Jürgen Walter, NATO Civilian, Ret. – Web Manager; Christiane Hermant, NATO Civilian – Assistant Treasurer; Jean-Marie Boulet, Cdt BEL A, Ret. – Data Base Manager; Günter Bretschneider, NATO Civilian & LTC DEU AF, Ret. – Co-Chairman; Véronique Leroy, NATO Civilian – Treasurer; Scott Sunquist, NATO Civilian, Ret. – Project Manager*

3. Nomination of New President – General James L. Jones was nominated to be the 7<sup>th</sup> President of SOA
4. Acting Chairman's Activity Report
  - a. Nine ExCom meetings since 50th General Assembly (GA), three of which were dedicated to Constitution revision
  - b. Database update between November 2010 and March 2011
  - c. Initial draft Constitution prepared by Max Johnson in January 2011
  - d. Consolidated draft sent to members on 30 March for comments
  - e. Comments received by some 100 members
  - f. Final Draft Constitution prepared on 11 May with some 50 substantive comments taken into account
  - g. General Assembly preparations started in May
  - h. Social function for members residing in Belgium on 7 September – 13 members and 5 spouses attended – volunteer EXCOM Secretary identified
5. Treasurer's Financial Report
  - a. Saleable Items – Scarves, ties, pens, refills, cuff links – 4,164.64€
  - b. Cash – 45,503.33€ (2010 membership dues - 811€)
  - c. Total - 49,667.97€
  - d. Estimated annual operating cost – 4,000€ based on expenses from 2010
6. Presentation of Amended Constitution
  - a. In accordance with governing regulations, namely ACE Directive 5-1 *Morale And Welfare Programmes*
  - b. Purpose and objective of SOA i.a.w. actual capabilities
  - c. Simplified membership rules – members and honorary members
  - d. Membership linked to payment of dues and e-mail address
  - e. Volunteer Executive committee with up to nine officials
  - f. Tenure of EXCOM members for two years

- g. General Assembly supplemented by “virtual forum” – e-mail votes
  - h. National Chapters assume own financial responsibility – only Germany and US appear active
  - i. Introduction of annual membership dues – due in January each year
  - j. Dissolution of SOA upon decision of GA about disposition of funds/assets and effective date of dissolution
7. Annual Dues and Implementation Plan for Annual Dues
- a. Current Situation:  
292 life-time members; several members have paid dues till end 2015; since 50th GA no new lifetime members admitted; since May 2011 only annual dues of €5 accepted
  - b. Proposed Implementation of Annual Dues:  
Annual dues of €10 for all members;  
Members that have paid for 5 years in advance remain members until expiration, renewal of membership at €10 annually;  
Life-time members remain members till the end of 2015, renewal of membership at €10 annually.  
NOTE: Financial impact - projected net asset loss of €15,000 over 5 year period 2011-2015
8. Results of Voting by Members in Attendance, Absentees (Proxy vote), and Ballots received by e-mail:
- a. Election of New President - General Jones elected
  - b. Approval of the Amended Constitution - Approved
  - c. Payment of Annual Dues of 10€ - Approved
  - d. Approval of Implementation Plan for Annual Dues - Approved
9. SOA Scholarship Programme
- a. Purpose
    - 1) Provide a 1000€ scholarship to graduates of SHAPE Schools and/or direct descendants of SOA Members
    - 2) For Advanced Study in: Languages, History, Political Science, or International Affairs
  - b. Procedure
    - 1) Candidates submit short packet to Executive Committee
    - 2) Reviewed, then prioritized by EXCOM majority vote
    - 3) Funded only by Voluntary Contributions
    - 4) At least one annual scholarship
  - c. Results: Programme accepted. US Chapter to contribute 250€ in 2012.
10. SOA Way Forward – Activities 2012
- a. Information to members via Newsletter (Action: US Chapter)
  - b. Submit membership approved constitution for endorsement to SHAPE (Action: ExCom)
  - c. Inform SHAPE NMR Echelon (Action: ExCom)
  - d. Invite members whose membership expires to pay annual dues of Euro 10 (Action: ExCom, German and US Chapters)
  - e. Implement SOA Scholarship Programme (Action: Scott Sunquist)
  - f. Organize membership drive in Spring 2012 in cooperation with SHAPE CMD GRP (Action: ExCom)
  - g. Continue hunt for ExCom Chairman (Action: ExCom)
  - h. **52nd SOA Symposium – 11-13 October 2012 at SHAPE**

## Dinner at Ecole Provinciale d'Hotellerie



The menu and pictures tell the story!



**Table Setting**



**Centerpiece**



**Appetizer**



**First Course**



**Second Course**



**Dessert**

**Appetizer:** Pannequet de carotte a la glace de viande, Bisque de crevettes et espuma, oeuif brouille  
**1st Course:** Bar sur peau, epinards et champignons, petite lasagna de scampi soufflé, beurre aux herbes  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Course:** Baluchon de volaille aux champignons et garniture automnale  
**Dessert:** Soupe glacee de chocolat amer, oeuif a la neige, glace parfumees a la Chartreuse

More photos at the end of the newsletter.

## **SOME PERSONAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE REUNION AND RELATED EXPERIENCES**

Jack Haas: As I mentioned previously, I think this Symposium was one of the best especially considering the earlier implications from the 49<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Symposia.

The Positives:

- Beautiful weather
- ExCom meeting – well organized and covered needed items
- International attendance especially from the German Chapter and senior German leadership
- Reception – Very suitable considering the size of attendance. Great selection of hors d'oeuvres and beverages
- General Assembly
  - Well managed particularly the important Constitutional items
  - Clear voting procedures
  - All important issues resolved
  - **Date set for 2012 Symposium**
- Dinner at L'ecole – fantastic in all areas. Recommend continuation for future Symposia.

Areas that can be improved:

- Senior leader attendance both US and SHAPE
- ACO briefing by senior person, no slight intended to the briefer but certainly did not reflect any priority from SHAPE
- Increased UK and Italy member attendance
- Extend access to SHAPE to enable church attendance etc. on Sunday
- Cultural activity on Saturday

Gene Gay: I also attended the 51<sup>st</sup> SOA Symposium. I echo and endorse Jack's feedback comments.

Rick & Ann Fuller: Concur with all of Gene's comments. One additional thought, in addition to the cultural activity on Saturday, suggest an informal "day in Brussels" for Sunday. Perhaps a special rate could be obtained from one of the hotels near NATO HQ (and the airport) and the attendees could be encouraged to get together informally on the Sunday to enjoy the many features of Brussels. Not a big organized event, but rather an opportunity (for those who are interested) to get together with another couple, or individual or two.

Also think we should lock in dates now and attempt to block SACEUR calendar for an appearance at one of the events. Gen Jones could perhaps make an attempt to make this happen. A special update/welcome by SACEUR in the theater might draw some active duty people and maybe a Flag Officer or two. If SACEUR is not available we should at least get another of the senior officers to address us, particularly if Gen Jones is in attendance. We need some kind of indication that SHAPE cares.

Judy Lam: I attended the happy hour and the meal. Both were delightful. Merci.

Ron Love: Please pass on my sincere appreciation to all of those who contributed their time to make the 51st SOA Symposium a success. It was well worth the effort for me to come from the U.S. to get an update on SHAPE/NATO activities, see friends, and meet other SOA members. The schedule of events was outstanding, and the dinner at l'Ecole Provinciale d'Hotellerie du

Hainaut was magnificent. The bus transportation was especially helpful in getting to-from the events. I've been able to share my knowledge and experience from the visit with others in my local community, and I will definitely try to make future symposiums.

As additional information, the Space A flights worked well. I went to BWI and caught the commercial charter flight to Ramstein AB (about \$16) without difficulty. There were a few empty seats left. On return, I was #2 retiree of about 30 waiting for one of two flights back on Sunday from Ramstein to Dover and BWI that were postponed. For some reason, numerous active duty people showed up (over 100). Since the chances of catching one of the flights were not good, I decided to catch a C-5 to Rota AB, Spain instead. There were at least 45 empty seats. I had dinner on the beach, and the next morning, I caught a KC-135 (10 empty seats) to Rickenbacker ANGB (Columbus), Ohio. All went well- cab to the commercial airport and Southwest Airlines direct to BWI (\$177) where I picked up my car and arrived back home in time for dinner.

## **2. SOA ExCom Meeting – 11 January 2012**

As an indication of our way ahead and forward progress, the SOA ExCom met on 11 January 2012. The Acting Chairman welcomed Mr Allan Jeavons, recently retired NATO civilian, as the Committee's new secretary. Another important result is that the committee confirmed the dates for the 2012 symposium, i.e. 11 to 13 October; an optional social program will be organized for 13 October. A very successful Happy Hour followed the meeting in which over 40 participants, including the ExCom, participated. During the Happy Hour plans for the way ahead were discussed. Members used the opportunity for a productive question and answer session with the Executive Committee. Several excellent ideas were provided by the attendees.

SOA is about to implement the scholarship initiative. This 1000€ scholarship will become effective in the coming days and be open to graduating descendants of SOA members. The scholarships will be awarded to students who pursue studies in Languages, History, Political Sciences and International Relations. It was decided to keep scholarship funds separate from membership funds and a dedicated bank account in Belgium has been opened. More details on the scholarship program will follow.

## **3. Greetings From America and the US Chapter**

One of our continuing goals for the US Chapter is to sustain and revitalize the SOA membership within the U.S. Our regional organizations continue to evolve. There are no dues associated with joining the US Chapter.

Current committee members are:

President	James L. Jones	<a href="mailto:jjones@jonesgroupintl.com">jjones@jonesgroupintl.com</a>
Chairman	Jack Haas	<a href="mailto:john.haas.ctr@jsf.mil">john.haas.ctr@jsf.mil</a>
Vice Chairman	Gene Gay	<a href="mailto:eugene.gay@saic.com">eugene.gay@saic.com</a>
Secretary	John Craig	<a href="mailto:johncraigva@gmail.com">johncraigva@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Charles Lymn	<a href="mailto:hclymn@verizon.net">hclymn@verizon.net</a>
Member at Large	Chuck Richey	<a href="mailto:richeycw@cox.net">richeycw@cox.net</a>
Member at Large	Carroll Mitchell	<a href="mailto:carroll.mitchell@disa.mil">carroll.mitchell@disa.mil</a>
USEUCOM/SHAPE LO	Jeff Dienno	<a href="mailto:jeffrey.dienno@js.pentagon.mil">jeffrey.dienno@js.pentagon.mil</a>

## **US Regional Organizations.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a. Northeast (ME,VT,NH,MA,RI,NY)       | Dennis Ring ( <a href="mailto:dring1939@comcast.net">dring1939@comcast.net</a> )          |
| b. East Coast (PA,NJ,MD,DE,VA,WV)      | Bob Cranston( <a href="mailto:sandykayva@msn.com">sandykayva@msn.com</a> )                |
| c. Southeast (NC,SC,GA,AL,MS,LA)       | Sid Strickland ( <a href="mailto:savcolonel12@comcast.net">savcolonel12@comcast.net</a> ) |
| d. Florida                             | Skip Taylor ( <a href="mailto:hotaylor41@cfl.rr.com">hotaylor41@cfl.rr.com</a> )          |
| e. Great Plains (ND,SD,NE,KS,OK)       | Bob Ulin ( <a href="mailto:rulin@kc.rr.com">rulin@kc.rr.com</a> )                         |
| f. Mountain States (MT,WY,UT,CO,AZ,NM) | Roger Browne ( <a href="mailto:rgrbrowne@yahoo.com">rgrbrowne@yahoo.com</a> )             |
| g. West Coast (WA,OR,ID,NV,CA)         | Rick Fuller ( <a href="mailto:RickAnnF@aol.com">RickAnnF@aol.com</a> )                    |

## **US Chapter Formal Dinner – Ft. Myer 30 April 2011**

The annual dinner moved to a new venue, the Spates Center on Ft. Myer. Following several successful luncheons at the Spates Center, we gave it a chance for the annual dinner. We were not disappointed.

Eighty-three SOA members and guests signed up for the black tie optional dinner. Much like the 50<sup>th</sup> SOA Reunion in Belgium and the 2011 US Chapter Reunion in Florida, the enthusiasm of all participants was contagious. As always, attendees thoroughly enjoyed renewing friendships, reminiscing and getting to know better other former NATO/SHAPE members.

Our host, SOA and US Chapter President General George Joulwan, welcomed all and provided a summary of recent NATO and SHAPE activities as well as SOA events.

During the invocation, the names of those US SOA members we had last since the last dinner were mentioned. They included Bill Ginn, George Harrington, Bill Kahn, Fredrick Meier, John Morrison, Art Olson, Margaret Shupe, and Vic Villone.

Following dinner, we were privileged to have Ambassador David Newton address us and provide an historic context to the ongoing conflicts within the Middle East and North Africa. As a former ambassador to both Iraq and Yemen, he offered remarkable insight into a very complex political and ethnic part of the world.



## **US Chapter Reunion – Tampa – 19 Feb 2011 – Also called Florida Fun Weekend (FFW)**

Briefings 02/19/2011 – Special thanks to Claudia Vester-Hawthorne for providing this excellent summary:

John Doble opened the briefings by introducing Col Guy Zero, Deputy Chief of Plans, CENTCOM, who has oversight of U.S. teams in Afghanistan and who briefed on “Transition from Iraq to Afghanistan”. He noted that March 23, 2008 the U.S. crossed the 4,000 threshold for U.S. personnel killed in those two countries. The toll has risen to over 5,885, fifty percent of whom were 18 to 24 years of age.

Col Zero emphasized we cannot risk a strategic failure in Afghanistan. Although progress is being made, we are still in the counter-insurgency campaign. The U.S. is transitioning from Iraq to Afghanistan from the summer of 2011 to 2014. Target date for approval of transition

plan by North Atlantic Council is 25 March 2011. He noted that 47 countries have military serving in Afghanistan including NATO member countries and nations in the coalition.

Following huge personnel losses due to IEDs, the U.S. Army developed two-man teams (snipers) comprised of a 'spotter' and a 'shooter' who pick off the enemy while he is planting IEDs at night. The training and use of these two-man teams has proven quite effective in reducing personnel losses.

Pakistan is deeply involved with 140K military personnel and has suffered personnel losses of 2,500 in recent years.

The U.S. has a strategic document published by Secretary Gates, 'Guidance for Employment of the Forces' or GEF, which prioritizes what combatant commanders will do with their forces.

The second briefer was MAJ Partaw Murid Afghan Army, who provided us with some useful statistics. Forty percent of the population can now read and write. The enemy (Taliban) wants to keep the people illiterate so they will not rise up. In some provinces, the Taliban burns down schools. Literacy programs involve 8 to 10 weeks of language classes used for police and the Army. Seventy percent of the population is below age 30. Whereas previous generations were compliant with an autocratic government, the present younger generation will not be compliant.

He noted that Afghanistan is a land-locked country noted for its mountains, deserts, cold winter and warm summers. Its area is about the size of Texas or 647.5 square kilometers with a population of 40.7 million. His country is multi-ethnic with Pashtoos the major ethnic group followed by Tajiks. The Afghan National Army (ANA) is almost 160,000. The Afghan National Police (ANP) has 90,000 members and is still growing and under development. An ANP Commandant is located in every province. The two main religions are Sunni Muslims (83% of population) and Shia'a Muslims (15%). His country is rich in gas, oil, coal, copper, chromites, talc, zinc, lead, iron, salt, precious and semi-precious gems. Domestic production includes textiles, soap, furniture and fertilizer. Agricultural products: grains, cotton, fruits, nuts, sheepskin, wool, mutton and other livestock. The MP Security Agency has an anti-narcotic unit which has considerably reduced the production of poppies.

BG Jens Prestegaard, Coalition Chairman, was the next briefer. Elected by NATO member nations, he is the Danish Senior National Representative to CENTCOM prior to which he was the Danish National Military Representative at SHAPE in 2010. He noted there are 57 nations plus the United States in the Coalition at MacDill AFB. There are 200+ international officers at CENTCOM. CENTCOM responsibility spans 4.1 million square miles; 512 million people; four major religions; 18 major languages and 22 ethnic groups. Sixty to 70% of daily oil supply for the world flows through Straits of Hormuz and Persian Gulf under CENTCOM watch.

BG Prestegaard noted that Denmark has about 1,000 soldiers in Helmand Province and has suffered 40 casualties.

The final briefer BG Masir Khan, Pakistan's Senior National Representative at CENTCOM for the past four months with eight months remaining in his assignment, thanked John Doble for the opportunity to speak to 'such a good group' which has served many years on active duty.

He noted that Pakistan became independent from India on 4 August 1947 but that enmity has remained between the two countries. Pakistan is comprised of Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA); four provinces; Jammu and Kashmir (both recently given status of 'Province' but whose territory is still disputed). The FATA are located between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Pakistan developed nuclear capability in response to India's nuclear capability.

Gen Khan acknowledged that Pakistan is one of the most volatile regions of the world, characterized by long, outstanding unresolved disputes; history of numerous conflicts in recent past; 1848 War; 1965 War; 1941 War; Kargil Conflict.

FATA is comprised of 3.95 million people, including more than 60 tribes/subtribes or 2.2% of Pakistan's total population. FATA has divided villages/communities on either side of the border. Military geography poses political and other problems. FATA is united by language, religion (Islam) and a Code of Conduct (Revenge, Honor, Hospitality and Forgiveness).

The National strategy to fight terrorism involves Dialogue, Deterrence (weaponry), Development and Elimination of terrorists. The latter requires military strategy to combat terrorism as well as denying use of Pakistan's territory as a sanctuary for terrorist activities across Pakistan. Half of Pakistan's Army is continuously committed in combat operations. Pakistan's Army mans 821 posts on Pakistan/Afghanistan border. Pakistan has two Naval Task Forces in the Arabian Sea. Pakistan AF uses mostly F-16s armed with Laser Guided Bombs. Pakistan has conducted 217 major operations; 516 minor operations; with 14 operations conducted by coalition forces.

Major success has been South Waziristan Operation in which terrorist command and communications infrastructure were dismantled; main supply routes secured; major towns and buildings cleared; and general public confidence restored.

Refugee Camps, still in Pakistan, represent a security problem with 11 camps having 53,000 refugees covering 23 square miles.

Pakistan's military personnel losses in recent years have exceeded 2,800 including nine general officers. Terrorism has shattered the Pakistani economy with \$40 billion economic losses to include the loss of 4 Billion tourist dollars. External debts rose to \$55 Billion. Sixty percent of the nation's budget goes to the military and debt-servicing.

The General noted that U.S. drone attacks were 'against the perception of the people of Pakistan' who would prefer to have the drones to use themselves.

A Question and Answer period followed the briefings.



US Chapter SOA Florida Reunion Attendees – Lots of Smiling Faces

### **Future US Chapter Activities**

- a. US Chapter Reunion (Florida Fun Weekend) – 9 to 11 Mar 2012, Tampa
  - a. Details attached at the end of this newsletter.
  - b. There is a great opportunity to include a cruise from Tampa.
- b. US Chapter Formal Dinner, Spring 2012

### **US Members Comments Section**

- a. I'm entering my third year as SACEUR and continue to enjoy the job. The key issues are Afghanistan, Libya, Russia, the Balkans, piracy, missile defense, and piracy -- with over 150,000 troops deployed on three continents, SHAPE is busy! We are also reducing the size of the command structure from 13,000 to 9,000 in order to reduce costs and overhead for the Alliance. Busy times and I believe NATO and SHAPE remain a force for good in the world.

Best,  
Jim  
Admiral, USN  
Supreme Allied Commander, Europe  
Commander, US European Command  
"Stronger Together"

- b. Col (US A, Ret.) Raymond S. Hawthorne (SHAPE/Live Oak 1987-89) is an avid golfer and golfs several rounds per week. He also stays busy maintaining his home and property in central PA and visiting family members in VA, NC and KY. He serves as

Protestant Parish Council President, Fort Indiantown Gap Chapel. Every September he and his wife Claudia are busy with wine-making activities.

MAJ (US A, Ret.) Claudia S. Vester-Hawthorne (SHAPE 1976-80 and 1987-90), volunteers at the Palmyra Public Library prior to and during its annual July book and movie sale. She also occasionally provides special music (violin) at the Sunday Protestant Chapel service.

She and Raymond spend the coldest winter months in Clearwater, FL and have participated in the past three US Chapter Reunions and the 2008-2010 SOA Symposiums/Reunions.



- c. Colonel (US A, Ret.) Mumford served as Commander of Allied Command Counterintelligence Agency (ACE-CI Activity) at SHAPE from 1985 to 1987. He retired from active duty in 1989, but he has not stopped being a committed SHAPEian. He is now in his 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive year as an adjunct faculty member at the Capitol campus of Pennsylvania State University where he incorporates his NATO experience and knowledge into courses from a basic introduction to international relations to advanced courses dealing with US national security policy, the nature of alliances, politics of the Middle East and comparative politics of Europe.

He finds the material in SOA Newsletters of great value in keeping current with the challenges, policies and expansion the Alliance. To illustrate, in an assigned reading entitled “Alliances: Adapt or Die: The NATO Example,” he uses a speech given at a SHAPE Officers Association luncheon in January 2004 by Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü, the then Permanent Representative of Turkey to NATO. Dr. Hans Binnendijk’s talk given to the SOA-US and reported in the July 13, 2011 SOA-US Newsletter continues the quality coverage of strategic adjustments being made by the Alliance following the November 2010 Lisbon Summit.



Jay C. and Joyce Mumford

Mumford is a proud life-member of SOA and shares the eroding membership and financial concerns which the Association has faced in recent years. He is hopeful that the very positive developments of the last few months will spark a general revitalization; attracting new members and holding old ones. He believes that every person who has been assigned to SHAPE should be grateful for the honor to have served in what history will assuredly consider a truly historic Alliance.

The US Chapter has established a Facebook site at [http://www.facebook.com/bookmarks/pages#!/pages/Shape-Officers- Association-US-Chapter/176639349037249](http://www.facebook.com/bookmarks/pages#!/pages/Shape-Officers-Association-US-Chapter/176639349037249)

From Koleta Thompson, SOA member

## **Giving and Getting**

Transporters graduate from the Transportation School knowing they receive training and knowledge that will serve them well during and after military careers. Assignments, events and programs shape Transporters into leadership in and out of their careers.

One of the leadership credos is that Transporters take care of their own knowing that nothing happens until something moves. Supporting your Army Transportation Museum with donations to help secure and protect equipment and artifacts for current and future generations to see and learn about the Transportation Corps is taking care of our own.

As I began to formulate this December message, I met a Transporter here in Texas, who served at Ft. Eustis in the 1960's. His unit was stationed at the post and part of his training was at Ft. Story. He talked of fond memories of the men of his unit and the post. Surprised that another person this far away from our early home, who knew of the times and places, he spoke for an hour about his experiences.

The Army Transportation Museum is the kind of place that brings out our memories, the past and present memories in the making, to allow others to get to know about the Transportation Corps. You know, the place where Transporters, families and friends can learn first hand about transportation. From rail to marine to aviation, the Army Transportation Museum shows the way all had a part in making the Transportation Corps an essential part of the Army.

Your gift to the Army Transportation Museum Foundation insures that current and future generations can continue to learn first hand of the transportation mission. Your support now will help keep the museum moving and happening.

Be a Trim Tab.

Koleta Thompson  
Texas Trim Tab  
ATMF Board Member

## **4. GREETINGS FROM SOA GERMANY**

In 2011, the leadership of the German chapter of the SOA changed. At their annual meeting in Cologne in May, MajGen (ret.) Friedrich-W. Ehmann passed the torch to BrigGen (ret.) Horst Lemke. The new chairman thanked Gen Ehmann for his efforts and a job well done which he had held since the past century, and the attendees broke into a hearty applause thus supporting these words.

Gen Lemke, who retired in 2002 after serving in the Luftwaffe for over 40 years, was a SHAPE action officer from 1983 to 1986, working in the Air Cell, Ops & Readiness Branch, Ops Division. Interestingly, the chairman of the US chapter, Col (ret.) Jack Haas, and he had overlapping duty-times in that office. It's a small world...



**Jack Haas & Horst Lemke**

During the meeting, members were given information on developments within the German SHAPE-contingent, an outlook towards the restructuring of NATO's headquarters, and, most interesting, an eye-witness account of the deployments of Geilenkirchen-based AWACS to support NATO's operations in Afghanistan. It was astonishing and, in a way, frightening, to learn of the many expensive flying hours and crew duty times being amassed due to the very long transit times to and from the theater due to political necessities!

The next meeting of the German chapter will be held, again in Cologne, in early May of 2012 and it is hoped that the attendance will be satisfactory again."

## **5. GREETINGS FROM SOA NORWAY**

Dear friends, here comes a few words from the snow-cave in Norway!  
Every time we get the SOA newsletter, my first thought is "wow - how nice it is not to be forgotten, and in particular not by those with whom we lived and served with during our time at SHAPE. And how nice it is to have even one more pleasant thing to look forward to - the next SOA gathering!

Whenever we have found the opportunity, we have prioritized to take a short break in the middle of a busy October, to go to Belgium and Mons and SHAPE. We appreciate so much to have another few days, enjoying the Belgian culture, enjoy the social companionship with old friends and being updated on the challenges and accomplishments of the Alliance and for our common cause for which we all have a burning heart. By the way, we have already made arrangements to go to the next SOA gathering, and so have Torbjørn and Susan Winge.

Here, we are both still busy at work. By New Year my company, Safetec Nordic, was bought up by American Bureau of Shipping. I never thought I should end my professional career in such a way, but I find it interesting though. At the time, as a consultant I have been given the task to support the German effort, in building wind-farms in the north sea, in matters concerning safety and emergency preparedness.

For those who are informed in particular, - our Persian cat won Norwegian National Winner last year!

Best regards - à bientôt - auf wiedersehn !

Rita & Trygve Hindenes

## **6. GREETINGS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM**

A short note from SOA member and golfer Peter Bedford:

However, having left SHAPE in 2010, have now spent 20 months with "no paid employment". Have been occupied with all the usual aspects of moving home and country, including the aftermath of refurbishing our family house, an 18<sup>th</sup> century former pub! Much enjoy my involvement as Honorary President of our local air cadets, an aviation-linked youth organisation for youngsters of 13 to 18. Many of the remaining hours seem to be filled with village life, golf and activities with our two young grandchildren.

PHOTOS FROM 51<sup>st</sup> SOA SYMPOSIUM









### **What's HOT!!!**

Alistair MacDonald, John W. Miller and Nathan Hodge of the Wall Street Journal wrote:

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Libyan air campaign succeeded in helping rebel fighters on their way to Tripoli, but NATO's involvement lasted longer than politicians hoped and increased U.S. anxiety about the group's reliance on American hardware, observers say. NATO officials say the campaign won't necessarily be seen as a template for further intervention in the Middle East. The Libyan campaign had United Nations backing, giving it a legitimacy that the U.N. isn't likely to bestow too readily on other interventions, observers say. Cash-strapped Western governments and their war-weary publics have little appetite for more costly and riskier military adventures.

Many defense analysts, and many rebel fighters, say NATO's intervention was decisive in the campaign. By mid-March, Col. Moammar Gadhafi's forces had pushed back the disorganized and lightly armed groups of rebel fighters into their eastern Libyan heartland. But as Libyan tanks massed outside the rebels' Benghazi base, NATO jets launched a series of strikes, beginning five months of bombardment.

On Monday, nobody at NATO or in its main contributor nations was calling a victory, but officials talked of cautious optimism about the end of Col. Gadhafi's regime. NATO's campaign immediately rendered Col. Gadhafi's air force impotent, bought rebel fighters time to arm, train and organize, and evened out the fight by destroying Col. Gadhafi's heavy weaponry and his command centers. Among its deadly tally, NATO said it hit 1,130 military facilities, 555 tanks and armored vehicles and 275 command centers.

"How could the regime direct forces centrally if every time they opened a satellite phone there was a NATO bomb dropping on them?" said Shashank Joshi, an expert in security at London-based think tank the Royal United Services Institute.

U.S. military officials say they don't believe any one single military factor turned the tide against Col. Gadhafi over the weekend. NATO military operations and American drones helped, but "the cumulative military, economic and diplomatic effects caused the people of Libya simply to say 'enough,'" a senior U.S. military official said.

The campaign had positive hallmarks. NATO allies reached an agreement to act in days, in contrast to their procrastination before intervening to stop massacres in the Balkans in the 1990s. Should the fighting in Libya draw to a quick close, NATO will have achieved its aims without losing any of its own personnel and with only one plane downed.

NATO has already begun talks about the logistics of drawing down operations, which have mainly been based in Naples, Italy. However, "a number of things would have to open up for us to pull out," a NATO official said.

For the moment, NATO will stay battle-ready. Col. David Lapan, a Pentagon spokesman, said on Monday that U.S. aircraft were still "flying the majority" of both surveillance and refueling sorties. "In the coming days, you'll still see us providing those missions," he said, referring to the surveillance missions.

Despite its successes, the intervention is unlikely to act as a template for future NATO missions, NATO officials say. The Libyan campaign was against a maverick leader with few friends around the world. That made it easier to get the U.N. mandate that authorized the use of "all necessary measures" to protect Libyan civilians.

Some nations, such as Russia and South Africa, have argued that NATO overreached its mandate of protecting civilians and became the rebellion's air force, an argument that would likely be used against future U.N. backing.

There were also special factors motivating NATO to intervene in Libya. The country is on Europe's doorstep. Fears of an uncontrolled exodus of Libyans to the Continent, coupled with Col. Gadhafi's history of sponsoring terrorism in the West, were among the motivations offered by leaders such as British Prime Minister David Cameron for supporting the move.

The Libyan campaign underscored the increasing defense vulnerabilities of cash-strapped European governments, which have been cutting military budgets. The heads of the navy and air force in the U.K. perhaps Europe's biggest military power said Libya stretched their services to the limit. As the campaign stretched into summer some European politicians increased their criticism of the commitment, while others noted it had taken less time for a NATO air campaign to dislodge the Serbs from Kosovo in 1999.

While the U.S. withdrew from offensive operations early in the campaign, NATO was dependent on America for so-called key enablers, such as air-to-air refueling and airborne intelligence gathering. Over a quarter of NATO's sorties to date have been carried out by the U.S.

Libya "does reinforce the reality that European powers are spending less on defense than in the past," said Anthony Cordesman, a defense analyst at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

Some European defense officials say that without U.S. input NATO could still have subdued the regime's military, but it would have taken much longer. Some analysts doubt even this. The refusal of some European countries to contribute to the campaign or take part in combat missions enraged then-U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who said Europe was increasingly relying on the U.S. taxpayer to subsidize its defense.

Some analysts say that as the U.S. cuts its own defense budget and rebalances its foreign policy priorities toward the fast-growing Pacific region, the very future of NATO could be questioned.

International Herald Tribune - October 30, 2011 - NATO's Success in Libya

By IVO H. DAALDER AND JAMES G. STAVRIDIS

Monday, Oct. 31st, seven months after it started, NATO's operation in Libya will come to an end. It is the first time NATO has ended an operation it started. And it comes on the heels of an historic victory for the people of Libya who, with NATO's help, transformed their country from an international pariah into a nation with the potential to become a productive partner with the West.

Seven months ago, the Libyan people were under threat and attack by the armed gangs commanded by Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi, the strongman who had brutally ruled Libya for 42 years. Within 10 days of the U.N. Security Council voting a resolution mandating the protection of Libya's civilians, policing of a no-flight zone, and prevention of illicit arms transfers by air and sea, NATO took command of a significant force of dozens of ships and hundreds of airplanes and commenced military operations. NATO's success was swift — saving tens of thousands of Libyan lives, grounding Qaddafi's air force, and watching Libya's coast.

This was a true alliance effort. The United States played a leading role, first by taking out Libya's integrated air defense system, then by providing the critical enablers that allowed other NATO countries and partners to shoulder their significant share of the burden. Meanwhile the U.S. provided the vast majority of the intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance assets to monitor Qaddafi's forces and equipment threatening civilians, the targeters that turned this information into targets for NATO forces to strike, and the aerial refueling that enabled our partners to stay up long enough to locate and destroy those targets.

The crucial and irreplaceable U.S. contribution to the overall effort was to enable other allies and partners to fully participate in the operation. In all, 14 NATO members and 4 partner countries provided naval and air forces for NATO's three missions.

Together, these 18 countries bore the heaviest brunt of the alliance effort. While U.S. planes flew a quarter of all sorties over Libya, France and Britain flew one third of all missions — most of them strikes — and the remaining participants flew roughly 40 percent. The non-U.S. NATO and coalition partners flew 75 percent of the sorties overall.

Ten years earlier, in NATO's war in Kosovo, the United States was responsible for dropping 90 percent of all precision-guided munitions, with other allies responsible for the remaining 10 percent. In this operation, the percentages were reversed: Allies struck 90 percent of the more than 6,000 targets destroyed in Libya. And they did so with a precision that is historically unprecedented.

Importantly, this was a collective effort. France and Britain played an extraordinary part in the operation, leading the pack in providing air and naval assets and striking over 40 percent of all targets. Italy, too, made an outstanding contribution. Not only was it the fourth largest contributor to the strike mission, it was an indispensable host to hundreds of aircraft at seven airbases.

Smaller allies also punched above their weight. Denmark and Norway together destroyed as many targets as Britain; Denmark, Norway, and Belgium dropped as many bombs as France. Canada, too, was part of the strikers coalition. And Spain, the Netherlands, Turkey, Greece and Romania played useful parts, enforcing the no-flight zone and arms embargo at sea. Those NATO members that didn't contribute forces still supported the operation by staffing the command structure; not one of the 28 members balked at the challenge. Even Sweden, not a NATO member, was a crucial partner, contributing its own naval and air forces.

This wasn't just a NATO success, let alone a Western intervention. NATO acted only after it was clear that it had broad-based regional support, including from the Transitional National Council and the Arab League, which requested the intervention. Four key Arab partners — the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Jordan and Morocco — participated in the effort. And it acted on the basis of a clear U.N. mandate, which authorized taking the necessary measures to protect Libyan civilians.

As Operation Unified Protector comes to a close, the alliance and its partners can look back at an extraordinary job, well done. Most of all, they can see in the gratitude of the Libyan people that the use of limited force — precisely applied — can affect real, positive political change. And as the alliance ends its operations, NATO remains committed to Libya's future, ready to help as needed and requested.

Every operation offers lessons to be learned. The Libya operation exposed some shortfalls in allied capabilities, and highlighted the importance of allied commitments to addressing these shortfalls. It also made clear the need for like-minded partners around the world. Moreover, the operation's success rested on a set of unique circumstances. A brutal dictator who had decided to inflict murder and mayhem rather than step aside provided a demonstrable need for outside intervention. Strong regional support, from the opposition and the Arab League, ensured that any intervention would be welcomed. And the U.N. mandate provided a sound legal basis for action.

Demonstrable need. Regional support. A sound legal basis. These are what made intervention necessary. NATO is what made successful intervention possible.

*Ivo H. Daalder is the U.S. permanent representative to NATO. Adm. James G. Stavridis is supreme allied commander, Europe, and commander of the United States European Command.*

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/31/opinion/31iht-eddaalder31.html?\\_r=1&ref=global](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/31/opinion/31iht-eddaalder31.html?_r=1&ref=global)

## In Memorium.

John M. Shalikashvili, 75, who as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the post-Cold War era of the 1990s extended the military's mission beyond armed might to diplomatic and humanitarian concerns, died July 23, 2011 at an Army medical center in Tacoma, Wash.

Before being named chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Gen. Shalikashvili had commanded NATO and U.S. forces in Europe. He coordinated U.S. troop interventions in Bosnia, Haiti and Zaire (now known as Congo) in the 1990s but left his greatest mark by making the military a powerful force for humanitarian relief worldwide.



Gen. Shalikashvili served as President of the SOA from 1997-2004.

In 2004 he suffered a stroke that left him partially paralyzed. His death followed a second stroke. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and son, Brant. He was buried Oct. 7, 2011 at Arlington National Cemetery.



Eileen Madden Larrimore (While at SHAPE – LtCol Eileen Bratz)  
1948 - 2012

Eileen Madden Larrimore, 63, died on January 3, 2012, on South Georgia, a British Commonwealth island southeast of Argentina, during a hiking expedition across the island.

Eileen and her husband Randy were following the route used by Sir Ernest Shackleton in his epic journey in 1916 to reach the whaling station at Stromness. She stumbled on the rocks and as Randy tried to catch her they both fell down a 50-foot cliff. Eileen suffered severe injuries and died shortly thereafter.

Eileen and Randy were high school sweethearts who had known each other since early childhood. They reconnected in 2004 after not seeing each other for over 35 years. They had a magical romance which included Randy asking Eileen to "go steady" when he re-gave her the high school ring he had given her in 1964 at his junior prom. In 2005 he proposed on bended knee after dancing to I Can't Stop Loving You, their special song from high school, which Randy had arranged to be played at their favorite piano bar in New York City. Their wedding reception was a re-creation of their 1964 junior prom with similar decorations assembled by a "prom committee," boutonnieres and corsages, and dancing to their favorite music from 1957-65. They both loved travel and had visited 49 countries in the past 7 years. At the time of the accident, Eileen and Randy were on a trip to Antarctica, which would have been their 7th continent. They were best friends and true soulmates. In April 2012 they would have been married five years.

The daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Madden, Eileen was raised in Seaford, Delaware, and attended Seaford High School. She graduated from Shippensburg College and earned a master's degree at George Washington University.

Eileen served 20 years in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of Lt. Colonel. She was stationed in South Korea, Belgium and many bases across the US. She ended her career at the Pentagon as Editor-in-Chief of Soldiers Magazine, her dream job. In addition to desiring to see the world, Eileen loved going to museums (with a special fondness for Impressionist art), movies (particularly foreign or independent), and the theater.

She is survived by her husband, Randall W. Larrimore of Alexandria, VA.; her step-son, Jake Larrimore, his wife Claire Heymans, and their daughter, Phoebe; her step-son Alex Larrimore; her parents, Kenneth and Mabel Madden of Seaford; her siblings, Adele Madden of Wilmington, Kenny Madden of Seaford, and Judy Rhodes of Seaford; and numerous siblings-in-law, nieces, and nephews.

There will be a service to celebrate Eileen's life at 2 pm on January 29, at St. John's Methodist Church, 300 N. Pine Street, Seaford, Delaware 19973. A second service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors when she is interred. Depending on the military's schedule, this memorial may not occur for several months. If you'd like details about this service, please contact CRANSTON FUNERAL HOME at 302-629-9237 or email [cranstonj@aol.com](mailto:cranstonj@aol.com).

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Grand Circle Foundation, c/o Eileen Larrimore Memorial Fund, 347 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210, a 501(c)(3) organization where 100% of gifts go directly to recipients. Your gifts will be used to help build schools and to provide educational materials in developing countries around the world. Eileen and Randy visited several of these schools during their travels and were compassionately inspired by children struggling to obtain a basic education.

### Robert Marsh, MBE

SOA lost one of our finest members when Bob Marsh passed away on 19 December 2011. Bob was an active supporter of the SOA as well as the SHAPE Golf Association (SGA). Bob was one of the first that stood to support the need for SOA members to continue paying dues, a movement that resulted in a change to our Constitution supported by the majority of SOA members.

Bob was also an avid golfer and in that capacity served as both Captain and Honorary Secretary of the RGCH where SOA and SGA golf events are held.



Robert Burns, a fellow Scot was Bob's favorite poet. Here is the Burns poem that was a final tribute to Bob.



**Randall L. Ford**  
**LTC, US Army (ret)**

Randall had been diagnosed with a brain tumor in June 2004 and had been in trials at National Institute of Health (NIH), Bethesda, Maryland most of the time until October about 3 months before he passed away from the tumor. He was active and played golf up until July 2011. He was able to travel until Sept. and was in Williamsburg when he got a sinus infection and became dehydrated and returned to NIH where he had another MRI and some other tests. He was told that the current chemotherapy was not doing any good. He was admitted to NIH for a week and then sent home suggesting contact hospice because he was getting weaker. He came home and had to have private care around the clock because he was so weak. He was able to be up a few hours each day until after Thanksgiving and he kept getting weaker. Eventually he could not speak but always knew everyone until the end. He passed away peacefully here at home. Funeral was on Dec. 22 at the Church of Christ in Falls Church and burial was on December 28 in Imboden, Arkansas.

**HOWARD JOHN ANDRES (Jack)**  
**Colonel, USAF (Ret.)**

On January 31, 2012, Jack Andres, age 75, died peacefully at Renaissance Gardens in Springfield, Virginia. He is survived by Darryl Andres, his wife of 52 years; his two children, Sarah Andres and Damon (Anne) Andres; three grandchildren, Jane, Erin and Aidan Andres; one sister, Dolly (Jack) Roth; and three brothers, Terry (Rita) Andres, Mike Andres, Kevin (Jaime) Andres and their families.



During his 26 years in the Air Force he piloted B-47s and is a [veteran](#) of the [Vietnam War](#). He had assignments at Lockbourne AFB, SAC Headquarters, Scott AFB, the Pentagon and SHAPE. He retired from the Air Force in 1985 and went on to work at SRA, Honeywell Federal Systems/Wang Federal, Inc., and ICT, Inc. and retired in 2000. He was an active member of the SHAPE Officers Association and the Springfield Golf and Country Club. A funeral service and interment with full military honors will be held at a later date at Fort Meyer Old Post Chapel and Arlington National Cemetery.

**US Chapter, SHAPE Officers'  
Association  
Proudly hosts  
SHAPE Officers' Association  
Reunion & Conference  
In  
Tampa, Florida**

**Weekend 9-11 March 2012**

**At**

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John Doble direct E-mail: [jdoble@verizon.net](mailto:jdoble@verizon.net)

John Doble Direct TEL: 1 813 920 8607, Mob: 813 503 6861

## **Hotel – 3 good choices (Reservation cut-off date: Feb 15<sup>th</sup>):**

1. Hilton Garden Inn, Tampa Ybor Historic District, 1700 East 9th Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33605, Tel: +1-813-769-9267 Fax: +1-813-769-3299. Kindly make reservations ASAP. Hotel located one-half block from the Tampa Bay Brewing Company. **Note: Briefings will be either at MacDill, AFB on Friday, subject to Guest Speaker or at THIS hotel's Conference Room.**

**Our Rate is \$139 + 12% tax -- Rate Includes 2 Adults, Free Parking for 1 car, and Full American Breakfast -- obtain tickets at check-in.**

Specify King or Double, same price. If 3 people in Suite, cost is \$10 more/night. If 4 people in Suite, cost is \$20 more per night/ Suite.

Mention "SHAPE Officers' Association". Rooms on first come first served basis. Since we have a limited number of Suites reserved, the first 15 get the option of "King" Suites. See Hilton Hotel website:

[www.tampaybor.hgi.com](http://www.tampaybor.hgi.com) Hotel Shuttle is limited to within 5 miles of Hotel. Streetcar is available one block from Hotel. Tampa Int'l Airport (TPA) is approximately 25 minutes from Hotel. Hotel does not pickup at Airport. Taxis' charge a flat rate of \$20-\$25 between Airport and Hotel – ask for price prior to departure. Two Public Parking Garages with low City rates, i.e., \$1 for the first three hours + daily rates are nearby plus free parking on the Streets for 2 hours.

Valet Parking is available just outside the main entrance of the Tampa Bay Brewing Company – one-half block from hotel -- and presently costs \$5 with Tampa Bay Brewing Company validation of parking stub.

2. Hampton Inn & Suites Tampa/Ybor City, 3 blocks away from the Tampa Bay Brewing Company. Parking is \$8/night. Contact:

<http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/hotels/index.jhtml;jsessionid=OGO30BY4EUMXACSGBIU2VCQKIYFC3UUC?ctyhocn=TPAYBHX>

Call: 888 842 9551, Mention "SHAPE Officers' Association": **Rates include Breakfast: \$149/night +12% tax KING STANDARD; \$159/night +12% tax Suites; \$169/night +12% tax Jacuzzi Suites.**

3. MacDill AFB BILLETING OFFICE: 24-HOUR OPERATION. Reservations and Registration: 8605 Hangar Loop Dr., 24-hour check-in/check-out.

Rates are \$48.25/night for a DV Suite & \$41.50 for a Mini-Condo.

General Officers and Colonels: Call for reservations 1-813-828-2056. Unless on Official Travel Orders from your Nation, reservations can be made only 72 hours prior to arrival.

Military Rank below General Officers and Colonels: \$39/night. Call for reservations TEL: 1-813-828-4259. Unless on Official Travel Orders from your Nation, reservations can be made only 72 hours prior to arrival.

## Free-time Activities for Consideration: Driving maps and detailed info available upon check-in at Hotel.

- **Tampa selected as Republican National Convention site for 2012 – Tampa Convention Center near Ybor City – accessible via Streetcar.**
- *Ybor City's "7th Avenue" Voted One of the Ten Greatest Streets in America!* (American Planning Association - 2008)
- **Mac Dill, AFB Tour Office – local & Orlando Attractions & ticket info:**  
<http://www.macdillfss.com/mainmenub-ll.aspx?SectionID=330>
- **Aquarium -- Hop on the local Streetcar, just outside the hotels and Tampa Bay Brewing Company (TBBC) -- Streetcar goes directly to Channelside, Cruise Ship Terminal where the Aquarium is located – also connects to Tampa Convention Center and Downtown Tampa.**  
<http://www.flaquarium.org/> **Need correct change for Streetcar** – Rates: One-Way \$2.50; One day unlimited - \$5; Seniors - One-Way \$1.25; Seniors - One day unlimited \$2.50.
- **Busch Gardens -- 15 min drive from hotel.**  
<http://www.buschgardens.com/buschgardens/fla/default.aspx>
- **Tampa Bay Downs -- Thoroughbred horse racing -- 40 min drive from hotel.**  
<http://www.tampadowns.com/>
- **Beaches at Clearwater -- 1 hour drive from hotel.** <http://www.floridasbeach.com/>
- **Disney, Downtown Disney, Disney-MGM Studios, Epcot, Universal Studios, etc. – 1+ hour drive from hotel.** <http://disneyworld.disney.go.com/wdw/index?bhcp=1>
- **MacDill AFB Golf, tennis and other Base activities -- 25 min drive from hotel.**  
<http://www.macdill.af.mil/>
- **Cigars/Cuban Cigar Rollers -- at several places in Ybor City. Great cigar value. If you tell me what cigars you seek, I can refer you accordingly. Arturo Fuente – the man himself -- lives in Tampa & sells his cigars in Ybor City -- see** <http://www.tampasweetheart.com/>
- **Great nightlife and daytime strolling through the Ybor City National Historic District -- walking from TBBC and Hotels. Free guided tours available.**
- **Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center: A short distance to Downtown Tampa. See shows at:**  
<http://www.tbpac.org/>
- **Muvico Centro Ybor: Movie Theater above the Tampa Bay Brewing Company.**  
<http://www.mrmovietimes.com/movie-theaters/Muvico-Centro-Ybor-20.html>
- **Check out what other visitors from around the world say about our meeting place -- the Tampa Bay Brewing Company:**  
<http://www.pubcrawler.com/Template/ReviewWC.cfm/flat/BrewerID=2638>
- **TBBC is featured on Diners, Drive-ins & Dives w/ Guy Fieri starting Nov/Dec 2011 – a Food Network Special – See: Video of Tampa Bay Brewing Company on the FOOD NETWORK** <http://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10150318543912827>
- **The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) featured the Tampa Bay Brewing Company in the Nov/Dec 2011 issue of "My Business" Magazine.**

## **Program**

**Friday, Mar 9, 2012, 1300 hrs: Meeting and Briefings at either Davis Conference Center, MacDill AFB or Hilton Conference Room – If at MacDill, Attendees kindly meet at 1200 hrs in Front of Hilton for car pool to MacDill AFB (when you RSVP, kindly indicate if you can drive and total number of people you would be willing to carry to include yourselves – drivers need exact change for toll road or electronic FL Sun Pass).**

**Agenda: US Chapter, SOA Meeting, Briefings with Guest Speakers of note, Roundtable-style discussions followed by Q&A and Group Photo.**

• **Friday, Mar 9, 2012, 1700 HRS: No-host Social at the Tampa Bay Brewing Company.**

• **Saturday Mar 10, 2012: 0900 hrs. Guided tour of Ybor City with professional tour guide (no cost) – meet by main entrance of Hilton Gardens, Tennis & Golf Outing at MacDill AFB -- Kindly specify Guided tour, Golf or Tennis participation with Dinner reservation – or enjoy other activities on your own.**

**Golf/Tennis at MacDill AFB Saturday, Mar 10, 2012: Yes: (Husband or wife or both) Total: \_\_\_ (Names/TEL No. /e-mail of golf/tennis participants). Golf Contact: Raymond Hawthorne, [raycla@msn.com](mailto:raycla@msn.com) Hawthorne Landline Tel# prior to 5 Jan 2012: 717.838.5052. Another TEL# not yet assigned, will be applicable for the Hawthornes' Clearwater, Florida residence from 6 Jan 2012 through 9 Apr 2012. This TEL# will be provided sometime in Dec 2011 to John Doble, Jack Haas and anyone who has already committed to the FFW Golf Outing by Dec 2011.**

**Golf courses normally do not reserve tee times more than one week prior to the actual golf activity. Raymond will request tee times of 0900, 0910, and 0920 as soon as allowed by MacDill AFB golf course.**

• **Saturday, Mar 10th at 1730 Hrs: No-host Social w/ hors d'oeuvres followed by Dinner at the Tampa Bay Brewing Company.**

• **Dinner Menu: Local Florida/Caribbean style – see menu hereunder for entrée selection.**

• **Special entrées available for dietary/health restrictions.**

• **Dinner Reservations with payment of \$50 per person (includes dinner, Guest Speaker and wife's dinner, tax, gratuity, and memento for Guest Speaker(s) are requested by 17 Feb 2012.**

• **Sunday, Mar 11th at 1000 hrs: Farewell Brunch at Hilton Garden Inn. Hilton registered guests can obtain free breakfast passes – (guests not registered at the Hilton pay when ordering).**

**Reservations with entrée selections for each attendee can be e-mailed to John Doble, E-mail: [jdoble@verizon.net](mailto:jdoble@verizon.net). Also provide name(s)/contact telephone/e-mail of Guided tour, Golf/Tennis participant(s).**

**Checks/Credit Card information to include Name(s) of attendees, type of credit card (CC), Name on CC, CC No., and expiration date can be provided via TEL, mail, etc. to: John Doble, 16006 Mcglamery Road, Odessa, FL 33556 USA, [jdoble@verizon.net](mailto:jdoble@verizon.net) Tel Direct: +1 813 920 8607, Mob: +1 813 503 6861**

## Tampa Bay Brewing Company

- Dedicated to the preparation of food and manufacture of beer the way nature intended.
- Best Food and Drink Value in Tampa Bay - Featuring 9-12 world-class American beers brewed fresh on Premise.

□ Al Roker interviewed TBBC on the today Show in 2009 - see  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gchjMAyG3SE>

- Won "Best Beer in Florida Championship" Award.

Selected by Al Roker and featured on the FOOD CHANNEL as one of the best Brewery/Restaurants in America.

- Selected as the Best Florida Family Business of the Year.

□ Featured on Diners, Drive-ins & Dives starting Nov/Dec 2011 - a Food Network Special - See: Video of Tampa Bay Brewing Company on the FOOD NETWORK

<http://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10150318543912827>

## Menu

**APPETIZERS** – Served during no-host Social prior to Dinner.

### **Cheese and Ale Dip**

**Firecracker Coconut Shrimp with Pineapple Salsa**

**Baked Brie and Butter Toasted Almonds with Fig Jam**

**Salad** – TBBC Baby Greens Salad *with Moose Killer Blue Cheese Dressing, Balsamic Glazed Red Onions and Roasted Tomatoes*

**\*ENTRES** – Select one for each attendee

**1. (Husband or wife or both)** – Crispy Pan Seared Florida Snapper *with Roasted Fingerling Potatoes and Coconut Pernod Cream Spinach*

**2. (Husband or wife or both)** – Australian Grass-Fed Tenderloin *with Roasted Brussel Sprouts and Bacon Potato Hash with a Smoked Onion Porter Compote*

**3. (Husband or wife or both)** – Tandoori Grilled Chicken Breast *with Roasted Vegetable Cous Cous, Golden Raisin chutney & Mint Yogurt Sauce*

**Dessert** – *House-made Malt Ice Cream and Brandy Flambéed Fresh Berries & TBBC Beignets*

**\*Menu items subject to change per availability**

**\*Special entrées available for dietary/health restrictions**

## Program Summery

[http://www.macdill.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet\\_print.asp?fsID=4343&page=1](http://www.macdill.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet_print.asp?fsID=4343&page=1)

- Friday, Mar 9th, 1300 hrs: Meeting and Briefings at either Davis Conference Center, MacDill AFB or Hilton Conference Room – **If at MacDill, Attendees kindly meet at 1200 hrs by main entrance of Hilton for car pool to MacDill AFB (when you RSVP, kindly indicate if you can drive and total number of people you would be willing to carry). Drivers need exact change for toll road or electronic FL Sun Pass.**
- Agenda: US Chapter, SOA Meeting; Briefings with Guest Speakers of note, Roundtable-style discussions and Group Photo.
- 1700 HRS at the Tampa Bay Brewing Company: No-host Social.
- Saturday, Mar 10th: Guided tour of Ybor City by Ybor Ambassador, Bob Alorda, Tennis & Golf Outing at MacDill AFB tee times of 0900, 0910, and 0920. Kindly specify Guided tour/ Tennis/Golf Outing participation when making Dinner reservation.
  - For non-Golfers & non-tennis players, kindly see Guided tour & other suggested free time activities above.
  - 1730 Hrs. Saturday, Mar 10th: No-host Social w/ hors d'œuvres followed by Dinner at the Tampa Bay Brewing Company.
- Sunday, Mar 11th, 1000 Hrs: No-host Brunch/Farewell at the Hilton Garden Inn. For SOA Members staying at the Hilton Garden Inn, kindly pick up your complimentary breakfast passes at check-in (1 pass per registered guest per day) – guests not registered at the Hilton pay when ordering.

## CRUISE OPPORTUNITIES FROM TAMPA

Discount Cruises, Last-Minute Cruises, Short Notice Cruises - Vacations...

<http://www.vacationstogo.com/printdeal.cfm?deal=12124&disp=N>

**VacationsToGo.com**  
**FASTDEAL #12124**  
7 nights departing March 11, 2012 on  
Holland America's Ryndam

Brochure Inside	\$999	Brochure Oceanview	\$1,099
Our Inside	\$599	Our Oceanview	\$599
<b>You Save</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>You Save</b>	<b>45%</b>
Brochure Balcony	\$1,799	Brochure Suite	\$1,799
Our Balcony	\$1,299	Our Suite	\$1,299
<b>You Save</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>You Save</b>	<b>28%</b>

**\$\$\$ Early booking bonus! Book now and receive a FREE \$50 per cabin onboard credit on select categories.**

**Promotions may not be combinable with all fares.**

The prices shown are US dollars per person, based on double occupancy, and subject to availability. They include port charges but do not include airfare or (where applicable) airport or government taxes or fees.



### ITINERARY

DAY	DATE	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
Sun	Mar 11	Tampa, FL		5:00pm
Mon	Mar 12	Key West, FL	1:00pm	6:00pm
Tue	Mar 13	At Sea		
Wed	Mar 14	Falmouth, Jamaica	11:00am	6:00pm
Thu	Mar 15	Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands	8:00am	4:00pm
Fri	Mar 16	Cozumel, Mexico	11:00am	8:00pm
Sat	Mar 17	At Sea		
Sun	Mar 18	Tampa, FL	7:00am	

Speak to a Cruise Specialist

**800-338-4962**

Open Mon-Fri 5:30am to 1am, Sat 8am to 8pm, Sun 9am to 10pm, CST

**Important Note:** Availability is extremely limited on all FASTDEALS and must be reconfirmed at time of booking. All prices are subject to change without notice by cruise lines, and must be reconfirmed at time of booking. Please have your credit card ready.

[Go Back](#)

## BACKGROUND ON SOA

The SHAPE Officers' Association was founded in 1961 by a group of officers at SHAPE in Paris. They not only established SOA but also began what has become a fine tradition, an annual reunion and dinner. The first such event occurred on 7 October 1961. It was attended by General Gruenther, a previous Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), General Norstad (then SACEUR) and about 200 other officers from all NATO nations. General Gruenther became the first President, a post he held until 1975. He was followed by General Lemnitzer (from 1975 to 1987), General Rogers (1987-1997) and General Shalikashvili (1997-2004), all previous SACEURs. General Peter Carstens, GE A (Retired), a former Chief of Staff, became the fifth President in October 2004. General George Joulwan US A (Retired) became the sixth President in October 2008. General James L. Jones USMC (Retired) became the seventh President in 2011. The serving SACEUR is the Host and Honorary President of the Association. The Association activities are planned by the Committee, headed by the Chairman.

### Aims of the SOA

The aims of the Association are threefold:

1. To preserve and foster the spirit of fellowship among its members and to provide an organisation that brings current and former SHAPE personnel together to exchange views and experiences;
2. To support and propagate the mission and objectives of SHAPE and, more generally, NATO;
3. To provide SHAPE and NATO authorities with access to a repository of relevant, current and past experience; and
4. To be a resource available to the SOA membership as needed and requested by appropriate authority for additional support, such as mentoring, and other special projects as identified.

### The SOA Today

- Briefings and luncheons are held throughout the year that feature distinguished political or military leaders on current military or political topics.
- Beer calls which feature a speaker.
- An Annual Symposium (usually in October) which includes such activities as cultural visits, a golf tournament, briefings, a presentation by SACEUR, etc. The formal Annual Dinner features a leading political or military figure as the guest speaker.
- There are active Chapters in Germany and the United States.
- Frequent newsletters are published per year for members only.
- SOA items for sale: silk and polyester neckties (dark blue with SHAPE crest), Parker rollerball pens, and cufflinks.

# SHAPE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (SOA)

## (RE)APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

LAST NAME: ..... FIRST NAME & INITIALS.....

RANK/NATO CIV GRADE: ..... SERVICE (A, AF, N) .....

DATE OF BIRTH:..... RETIRED: YES/NO (If yes, date of retirement) .....

NATIONALITY:..... SPOUSE'S FIRST NAME: .....

OFFICE TEL : ..... HOM TEL:.....

MAILING ADDRESS: .....

.....

FAX: .....E-MAIL: (mandatory).....

DATES OF ASSIGNMENT AT SHAPE: FROM..... TO .....

DATES OF ASSIGNMENT AT A MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMAND, NAMILCOM, IMS, NATO DEFENCE COLLEGE OR ANY OTHER MILITARY HQ PERMANENTLY ATTACHED TO SHAPE:

FROM:..... TO..... SERVED AT: .....

### **SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

	<b>Euros</b>	<b>Dollars</b>
<b>Annual fee</b>	<b>10 €</b>	<b>\$ 15</b>

Payments have to be made by bank transfer. Bank payments to account number: **270-0461556-83** (Fortis Banque, B-7020 NIMY). For international payments: IBAN: BE14 2700 4615 5683 and BIC is: GEBABEBB. For Canadian and USA members living in North America, please follow instructions below.

\_\_\_\_\_ (DATE) \_\_\_\_\_ (SIGNATURE)

### **RETURN THIS FORM TO:**

[shapeoa@gmail.com](mailto:shapeoa@gmail.com) or mail to :

**SHAPE Officers Association**

**Public Affairs Office, Room 232, Building 102 , B-7010 SHAPE, Belgium**

### **For Canadian or US members living in North America,**

RETURN THIS FORM WITH DUES TO:

H. Charles Lymn  
Treasurer, US Chapter  
SHAPE Officers Association  
7801 Birnam Wood Drive  
McLean, VA 22102  
Email: hclymn@verizon.net