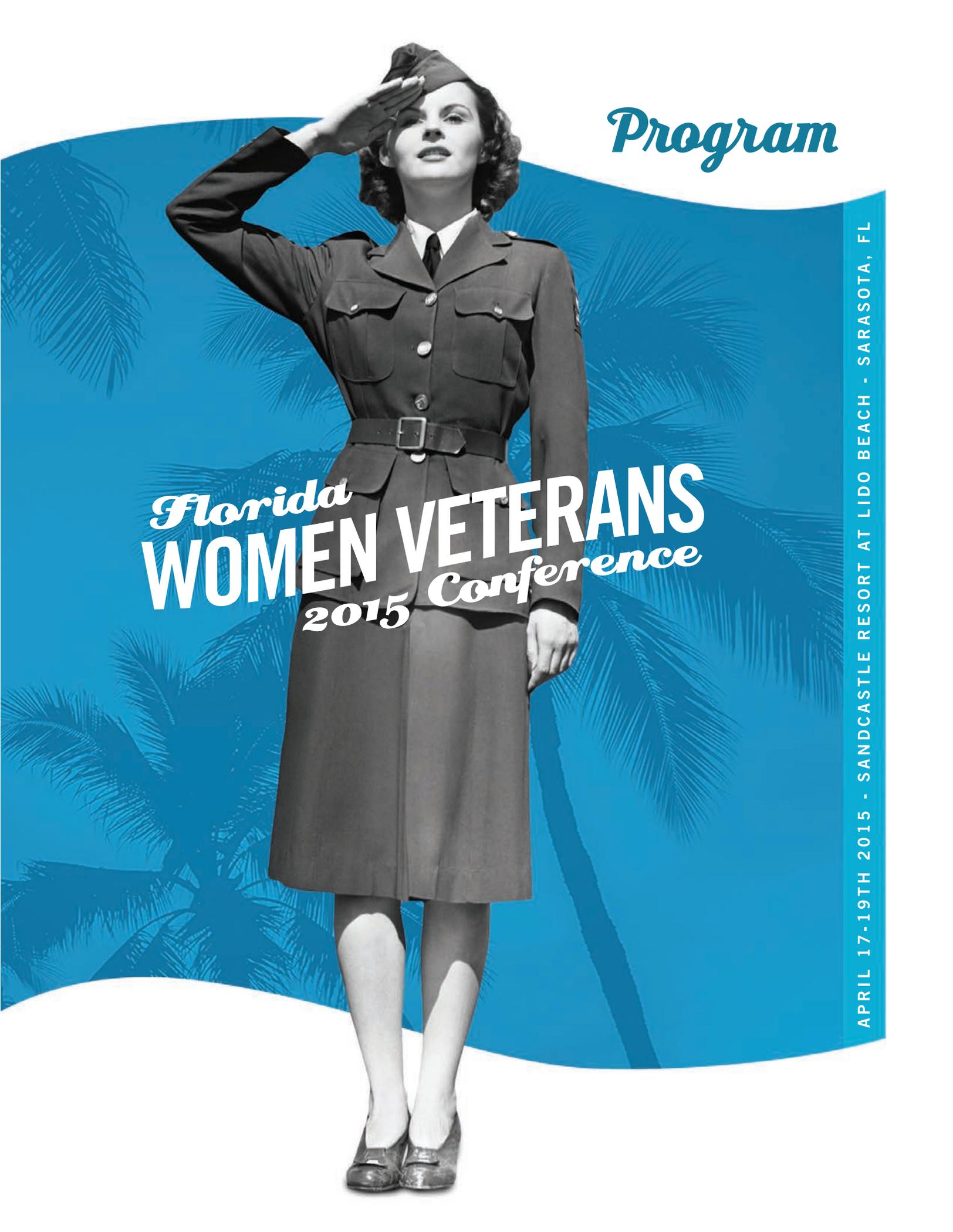
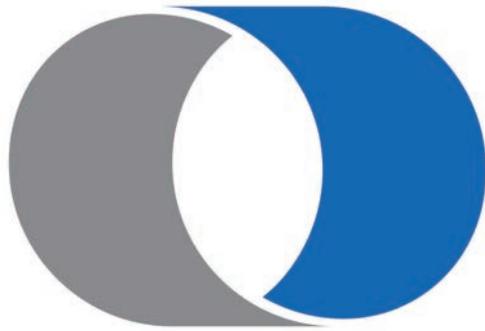


# *Program*



*Florida*  
**WOMEN VETERANS**  
*2015 Conference*

APRIL 17-19TH 2015 - SANDCASTLE RESORT AT LIDO BEACH - SARASOTA, FL



# ***United Rentals***



Trust her to  
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**The Women Veterans Call  
Center is your guide to VA.**

**Call 1-855-VA-WOMEN  
(1-855-829-6636)**

**Hours of Operation:**  
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 **1.855.VA.WOMEN**  
WOMEN VETERANS  
CALL CENTER

 U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

# **Goodwill**

**MANASOTA**



# Florida WOMEN VETERANS 2015 Conference

Fellow Veterans and Friends,

Thank you for being a part of the first-ever statewide Florida Women Veterans Conference! I welcome each of you for joining us for this much needed and long overdue event. I hope you find this inaugural event to be fun, uplifting, informative and that it helps you accomplish your own personal missions in life.

Without the faith of the attendees who have joined us this weekend, the donors who generously contributed, and the volunteers who gave countless hours and resources, this conference would have not been possible. Thank you, to each and every one of you for helping making this a reality today.

With nearly 160,000 women veterans in the state of Florida, this event is only the beginning. May this event grow to be even larger and more amazing in the coming years.

Sincerely,



Nadine Noky  
Conference Coordinator

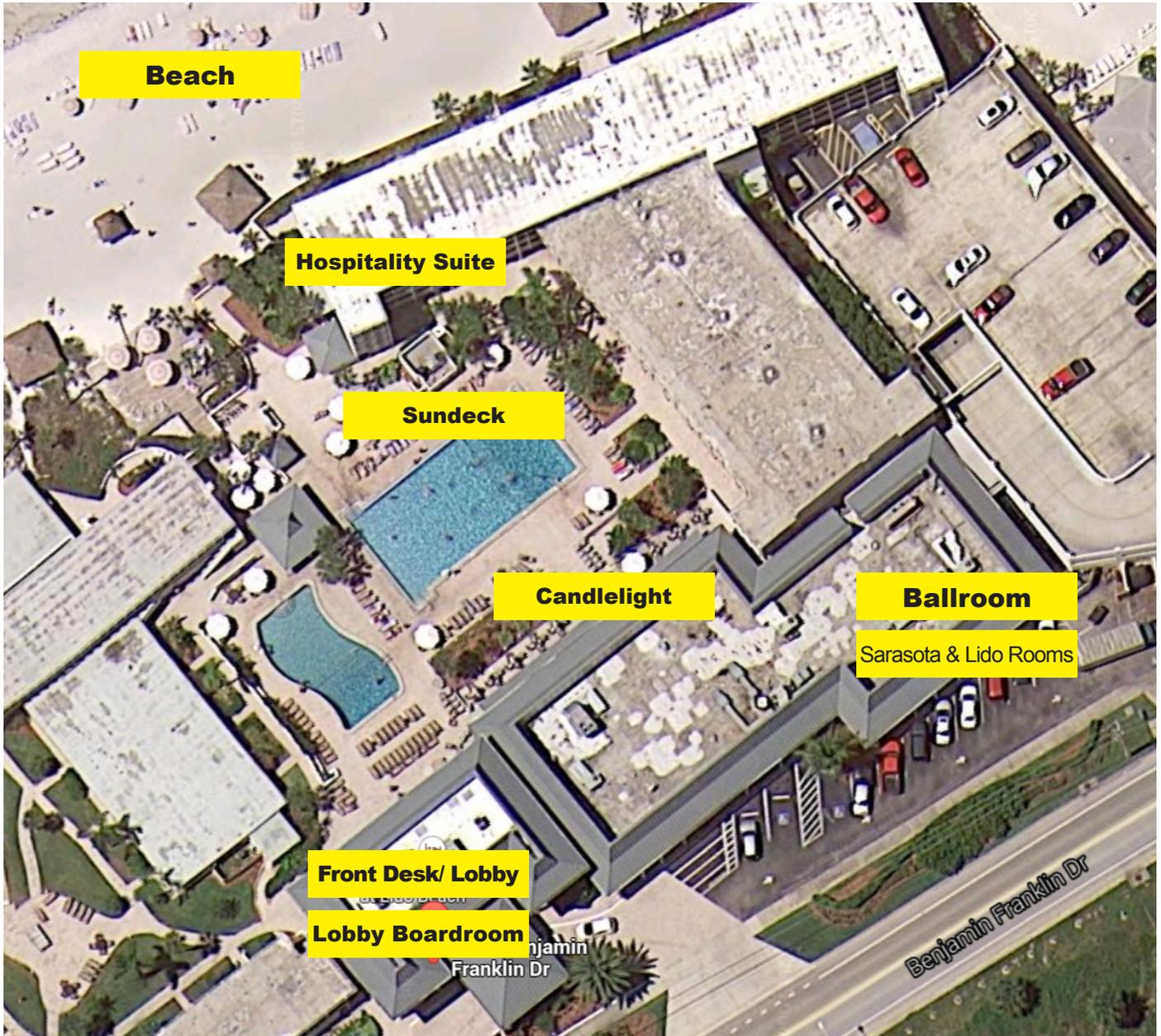
*Thank you volunteers for making this conference a reality.*

Cynthia Burns	Harvey Gochberg	Marty Monkiewicz	Geoff Morris
Michael Burns	Ernest Lohmann	Harold Noonan	Kira Dyson
Anthony Hardie	John Melendez	Skip Parish	Cameron Martin
Gene Jones	Judi Risner	Sheila Chamberlain	Hector Muniz
Anne Rawley	Lynn Smitten	Terri Wonder	Mitzi Livingston
Jutta Tulbert	Susan Toy	Alan Toy	Skip Hannon
Jeannette Lee	Pat Weir	Kevin Nortedame	Frada Cohen
Judy Connelly	Kevin Connelly	Rhana Bazzini	Shannon Bradley
Jim Dirmann	Marc Killum	Lorraine Livingston	Doug Brough

# Agenda | FRIDAY - SUNDAY

Friday			
3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Registration		Lobby Boardroom
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	<i>Networking Cocktail Reception, Registration</i>		Hospitality Suite
Saturday			
7:00 a.m.– 8:45 a.m.	Breakfast		Candlelight Café
7:00 a.m.– 8:45 a.m.	Registration		Ballroom Entryway
9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.	<i>Opening Ceremony</i>		Ballroom
9:50 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	<i>Goodwill Services to Veterans</i>		
10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.	<i>Keynote Speech: Linda Maloney, Veteran, Author</i>		
10:50 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Break</b>		
11:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.	<i>Entrepreneurship Overview: Michael Zacchea, Director, University of Connecticut Entrepreneurial Bootcamp for Veterans</i>		
11:10 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.	<i>Empowering Women Veterans: Diane Zumatto, AMVETS National Legislative Director</i>		
11:50 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<i>Closing Remarks: Nadine Noky, Lead Organizer, Florida Women Veterans Conference</i>		
12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>		Candlelight Café
<b>BREAKOUTS:</b>	<b>LIDO ROOM</b>	<b>SARASOTA ROOM</b>	<b>LOBBY BOARDROOM</b>
1:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	<i>Facing Your Trauma</i> Louise Sutherland-Hoyt, LMHC	<i>Personal Finance for Women Veterans</i> Jim Roque Women Veterans SunTrust	<i>Military Sexual Trauma: Prevalence, Themes, and Treatment Issues</i> Sue Ann Garrison, PhD, MSA
1:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	<i>Resources for Women Veterans</i> Kim Suchek, Author		
2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<i>After the DD214: Advancing Your Education</i> Sarah Maples, Author	<i>Women Veterans' Transition to College and Employment</i> Crista Shaw, M.S., VRC	<i>Women Veterans' Entrepreneurship 101</i> Michael Zacchea, Entrepreneurship Coach
2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<i>Alternative Health Options</i> James Theriault, DC		
3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	<b>Break</b>		
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<i>Toxic Wounds: Exposures &amp; Advances</i> Diane Zumatto, National Chair, Toxic Wounds Task Force	<i>Create a New Life Story</i> Robin Fernandez, Certified Life Coach	<i>Women Veterans' Venture Capital: Entrepreneurship 201</i> Michael Zacchea, Entrepreneurship Coach
5:45 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	<i>Networking Meet Up</i>		Hospitality Suite
6:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.	<i>Cocktails &amp; Florida Women Veterans Conference Banquet, Entertainment by Philly Plowden, Comedian</i>		Ballroom
Sunday			
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	<i>Connect Warrior Yoga</i>		Sundeck
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Breakfast		Ballroom
9:45 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.	<i>Experience the Joy of Nature Building a Sand Mandala</i>		Beach
10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	<i>FLWVC Wrap-Up and 2016 Organization Meeting</i> ALL WELCOME		Ballroom

## Area Map



Please see guest services for additional maps and guidance.

Thank you for your generous donation

*Dr. Eddy Regnier*



April 17th, 2015

On behalf of Florida Veterans for Common Sense Fund, Inc., (FLVCS FUND) I am pleased to welcome you to the first Florida Statewide Women Veterans Conference.

FLVCS FUND is proud to be the primary sponsor of the first Florida statewide Women Veterans Conference. The vision for the conference originated with Florida Veterans for Common Sense members Nadine Noky, an Iraq War veteran, and Anthony Hardie, a 1991 Gulf War Veteran.

These two veterans recognized that women veterans are sometimes an overlooked, and underappreciated, veteran cohort. They recognized that a conference specifically oriented to women veterans could help remedy this weakness. They brought their idea to the FLVCS FUND board that supported the project unanimously and commenced work to bring the project to fruition.

From its formation, the mission of FLVCS Fund has been to recognize needs of our fellow veterans and to help meet them. We are confident that this conference will be a productive and memorable experience. We trust that it will empower you in your personal and professional lives and will build solidarity, camaraderie, and dialogue among women veterans.

Gene Jones, President  
FLVCS Fund INC.

**FLVCS FUND is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization committed to assist our fellow veterans and their families.**

FLVCS FUND is affiliated with Florida Veterans for Common Sense Inc., (FLVCS) a 501 (c) 4 veterans advocacy organization.

**FLVCS meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM**

**at the Waldemere Fire Station Community Room, 2070 Waldemere St., Sarasota, FL 34239.**

[floridaveteransforcommonsense.org](http://floridaveteransforcommonsense.org) and [Veterans for Common Sense, veteransforcommonsense.org](http://Veterans for Common Sense, veteransforcommonsense.org)

SARASOTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Sarasota, Florida



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** *women have served with dignity and courageously in all of America's wars and conflicts since the birth of our nation, and continue to increase their importance and contribution to our Armed Forces; and*

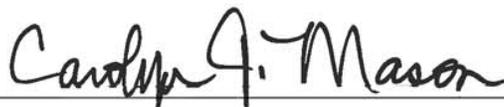
**WHEREAS,** *women veterans, because of their military experience, are imbued with a strong sense of service and selflessness, making them valuable members of their communities; there are more than 166,000 women veterans in the state of Florida, many of whom live and work in Sarasota County; and*

**WHEREAS,** *because of their unique experiences, women veterans sometimes face challenges to realizing total self-fulfillment, and, through the first ever Florida Women Veterans Conference, April 17-19, 2015, at the Sandcastle Resort on Lido Beach, Sarasota, women veterans will gain the tools and contacts for professional and personal development.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA,**  
*do hereby proclaim April 18, 2015 to be:*

## **WOMEN VETERANS DAY**

**PRESENTED** *this 18th day of April 2015.*



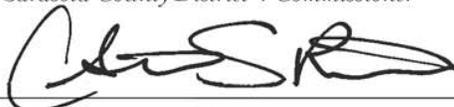
Carolyn J. Mason *Chair*  
Sarasota County District 1 Commissioner



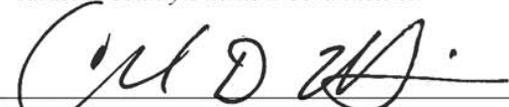
Alan Maio *Vice Chair*  
Sarasota County District 4 Commissioner



Paul Caragiulo  
Sarasota County District 2 Commissioner



Christine Robinson  
Sarasota County District 3 Commissioner



Charles D. Hines  
Sarasota County District 5 Commissioner



Karen E. Rushing  
Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller



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**WRC**

**Womens Resource Center  
of Manatee**

1926 Manatee Ave, West | Bradenton FL, 34205



 **Veterans  
Crisis Line**  
1-800-273-8255 **PRESS 1**



Jeannette Lee's Donation

*For All Women Veterans*





**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

April 17, 2015

Dear Friends:

As Governor of the Sunshine State, it is my pleasure to welcome all attending the Florida Women Veterans 2015 Conference. We are proud our state is home to the third largest women veterans' population in the nation, and it is our privilege to recognize your service to our country.

As Governor and a Navy Veteran, I am committed to all our veterans. Today, women make up approximately 15 percent of active duty forces and are the fastest growing veteran demographic. Our goal is to make Florida the global leader for businesses and job creation. None of this would be possible without the dedicated service of our veterans.

We are making it our priority to increase job opportunities for women veterans and connections to your earned benefits and assistance. That's why I signed legislation in 2013 establishing a state women veteran's coordinator to help provide targeted support to our women veteran population. Similarly, the Office of Supplier Diversity focuses on women and veterans for entrepreneur and small business opportunities.

We are proud to honor all of Florida's more than 1.5 million veterans, including the nearly 165,000 female veterans. We thank you for your service and for choosing Florida as your home. As women veterans, you are wage earners, mothers, wives, and sisters who have proudly served our country. Again, thank you for your service, and we wish you all the best for a memorable conference and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott  
Governor



United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON  
FLORIDA

April 18, 2015

Dear Women Veterans:

Congratulations on the inaugural Statewide Florida Women Veterans Conference! Although I am unable to attend this weekend's celebration, I applaud the visionary spirit and dedicated leadership which worked to bring together female veterans of all ages.

You are truly what makes the United States great. Your sacrifice for duty, honor and country is the foundation of freedom. While in harm's way, you found courage to perform in the finest tradition of our armed forces.

It is your dedicated service that protects our freedom at home and extends it to the rest of the world. I salute and thank each one of you - your service will never be forgotten. Enjoy the weekend!



Sincerely,

*Bill Nelson*

# THE CITY OF SARASOTA

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, throughout our country's history women have provided critical support to our Armed Forces with their roles ever expanding making them an indispensable component of the nation's military; and

**WHEREAS**, there are more than 160,000 women veterans living in the State of Florida with many calling the City of Sarasota their home; and

**WHEREAS**, these women veterans possess, not only through their training and experience but also their perseverance in pursuing a military career, skills in collaboration, dedication and tirelessness that make them valuable team members in many different organizations and enterprises; and

**WHEREAS**, the first Florida Women Veterans Conference will provide participating women veterans with the knowledge to translate their abilities into meaningful work and life; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Sarasota is honored to be the site for the Florida Women Veterans Conference and we recognize the courage, honor and dignity with which women have served and continue to serve in defense of our nation, our Commonwealth, our communities and our homes.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Commission of the City of Sarasota, Florida, and on behalf of the citizens of our community, takes great pride in recognizing April 18, 2015 as

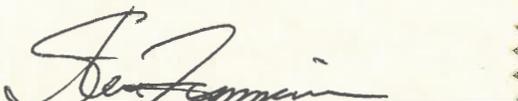
## "Women Veterans Day"

a day of special importance and worthy of the recognition of the citizens of the City of Sarasota.

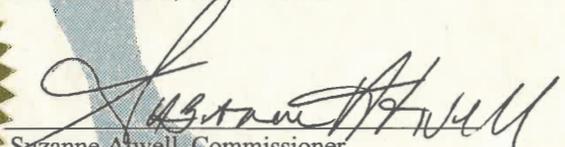
  
Willie Charles Shaw, Mayor

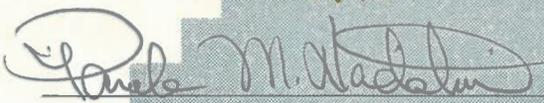
  
Susan Chapman, Vice Mayor

  
Eileen Normile, Commissioner

  
Stan Zimmerman, Commissioner



  
Suzanne Atwell, Commissioner

  
ATTEST: Pamela M. Nadalini, City Auditor and Clerk

*Keynote Speaker* | LINDA MALONEY



Linda Maloney is an award winning author, business owner, leadership development professional and former military aviator and commissioned officer. She spent 20 years in the Navy, first as an enlisted air traffic controller and later as a Naval Flight Officer, flying both the A-6 Intruder and the EA-6B Prowler. Significantly, she was one of the first women to join a combat flying squadron and received numerous awards, including the Distinguished Air Medal for combat, which she earned for flights over southern Iraq in support the no-fly zone. Since retiring from the Navy in 2004, Linda started her second career in defense contracting and is currently the business operations and communications manager for a company in Newport, RI. She is also an author, event speaker and co-founder of the National Women Veterans Speakers Bureau. Her award winning book, *Military Fly Moms—Sharing Memories, Building Legacies, Inspiring Hope*, published in 2012, is a biographical collection of the true stories of seventy women who shared the same two dreams—becoming military aviators and being moms. Linda speaks throughout the country on many topics including *Passing Down a Legacy, Leadership and Women, Women and Non-traditional Careers, Margin and Life Balance, Transitioning from Military Leadership to Business Leadership*, and *Aviation for K-12 groups*.

**Keynote Topic: Achieving Your Next Mission & Why Your Military Experience Offers You a Unique Advantage. Event participants will hear why military women veterans possess a unique advantage in their personal and professional life journey because of their military service and veteran status and their understanding of teamwork, camaraderie and the importance of mission achievement. They will also hear why they play an important role in passing down a legacy to future generations. Linda will share her own personal story about her military career and how it provided her a solid foundation from her experiences as a military leader, manager and aviator and her post military career as a corporate business manager, entrepreneur and award-winning author and speaker.**

Thank you for your generous donation

*Frank Ouseley*

Thank you for your generous donation

*Geoff Morris*

**Speaker** | **DIANE ZUMATTO** | **EMPOWERMENT / TOXIC WOUNDS**



A former member of the Women's Army Corps/ U. S Army who served in North Carolina and Germany, Ms Zumatto has been continually active in support of veterans' issues. She is the current AMVETS national legislative director and is the only female legislative director in the veterans service organizations. Since 2011, she has authored the Independent Budget (IB). Published annually the IB is a comprehensive budget and policy document created by veterans for veterans. Covering such topics as veteran/survivor benefits; judicial review; medical care; construction programs; education ,employment and training; and the National Cemetery Administration, the IB is utilized by the White House, Department of Veterans Affairs, Congress as well as other military and veterans service organizations. Ms Zumatto is regularly called upon to provide oral and written testimony for various congressional committees including the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees. Responsible for developing and pursuing the annual legislative priorities for AMVETS, she creates the briefing/policy papers and is a quarterly contributor to American Veteran magazine. Since joining AMVETS, Ms Zumatto has focused on toxic wound/Gulf War illness, veteran employment and transition, military sexual trauma, veterans discrimination and memorial affairs issues. She is currently the national chair of the Toxic Wounds Task Force. With more than 20 years working with non-profit organizations, her experience and knowledge are extremely well-rounded. Ms Zumatto earned a BA from the University of Mary Washington.

**Speaker** | **MICHAEL ZACCHEA** | **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**



Mike Zacchea was commissioned in the Marine Corps in 1990. He served as a forward observer and platoon commander, deploying to Somalia for Operation Restore Hope and to Haiti for Operation Support Democracy. In March 2004, as a major, he deployed to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom II. His team's mission was to build, train, and lead in combat the first Iraqi army battalion trained by the US military. During this time, the battalion participated in Operation Phantom Fury, the 2nd Battle of Fallujah. During the battle, Mike was wounded by a rocket-propelled grenade, but declined to be medically evacuated.

Mike's military awards include the Bronze Star Medal for Valor (with gold star in lieu of 2nd award), the Purple Heart Medal, a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, a Combat Action Ribbon, and numerous unit and campaign awards. Mike was also the first and at the time only American recognized by the Iraqi government by the Order of the Lion of Babylon. As a result of his wounds, Mike was medically retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

He is the director the University of Connecticut School of Business's Entrepreneurial Bootcamp for Veterans (EBV). He is also involved in the creation of ConnectVets, Inc., a non-profit organization of veteran-owned businesses in the state of CT. He was appointed to a multi-agency cross-disciplinary working group chaired by the Commissioner of the CT Dept of Veterans Affairs to align veteran education, job-training, and workforce re-entry issues. The Small Business Administration recognized Mike as the 2011-12 Veterans Business Champion. Mike is the author of "Veteran's Advocacy: the Fight for Social Justice and Healing Through Activism" in *Healing War Trauma: A Handbook of Creative Approaches* (Routledge: 2013).



## ***Breakout Speaker* | KIMBERLY SUCHEK | MILITARY RESOURCES**



Military spouse, inspirational speaker, veteran advocate and weekly column writer for STARS AND STRIPES, Kimberly is passionate about quality of life issues for all military families. Well-versed in the unique challenges faced by military families and an assertive activist, Kim became concerned about the lack of information provided and shared for all branches, eras, transitions and needs. She decided to do something about it by writing and publishing OPERATION: Military Resources. Subsequently she launched MilitaryResourceBooks.com, an online clearinghouse of continually updated information on regulations, policies, programs events and resources for all military personnel and their families, past and present. Kimberly authors the popular Survivor Guide Column in STARS AND STRIPES that reaches both US and overseas military installations. She is past president of Operation Homefront of Michigan, Family Assistance Coordinator for the Air and Army National Guard out of Joint Force headquarters and Grand Ledge Armory and a DEERS operator. She holds a degree in criminal justice and is currently working on a teaching certificate.

## ***Breakout Speaker* | JIM ROQUE | PERSONAL FINANCE**



Jim Roque is a Client Advisor with SunTrust Private Wealth Management. He offers clients more than 20 years of comprehensive wealth management experience, with a team approach that brings together specialists in investments, financial planning, credit, and estate strategies. Jim holds the Series 7 and Series 66 FINRA licenses. He is a native of Cranston, Rhode Island and is a graduate of Holy Cross College, Worcester, Massachusetts. Jim is active with The Ringling Museum, the Asolo Theatre, the Sarasota Ballet, the Tiger Bay Club and the South Florida Museum.

Jim holds himself accountable to recommend strategies with your needs and goals in mind. These strategies are supported not only by deep expertise from a team of specialists, but also highly attentive service and coordination of resources. Jim takes the time to talk to you, get to know you and gain an understanding of the critical aspects of your financial life so that he can assess the interaction of multiple objectives and the far-reaching implication they can have on each other.

## ***Breakout Speaker* | LOUISE SUTHERLAND-HOYT | MENTAL HEALTH**



Louise Sutherland-Hoyt is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in Florida with more than 16 years' experience in helping others in developing a positive personal outlook. She has been an outspoken advocate for those in need of mental health services, especially in the state of Nevada where she testified before the Legislature to address concerns around a lack of qualified providers.

As a Veteran (U.S. Army, 1969-1974) she has involved herself in several key outreach programs such as this one, to assist her fellow Vets and their families in managing the effects of Trauma and Transitions. Louise specializes in the treatment of Trauma-Driven compulsive, self-defeating behaviors such as substance abuse, anger, eating disorders, self-injury, and many other so-called "process addictions".



**Louise is available anytime during the conference to speak privately about any mental health concerns or issues that you might be experiencing. Please see a volunteer or Louise if assistance is needed. If it is an emergency please contact 911 immediately.**

Thank you for your generous donation

***Faye Rice***

## **Breakout Speaker** | JAMES THERIAULT, D.C | ALTERNATIVE HEALTH



Dr. James Theriault has been a licensed chiropractor serving the Venice Florida community for the past 30 years. A dedicated professional, Dr. Theriault believes that there is no substitute for competent and thorough treatment and focuses on chiropractic first, drugs second and surgery last. He is committed to promoting optimal health and well-being to his patients and community. Dr. Theriault graduated from Cleveland College of Chiropractic. He has also completed post graduate studies in orthopedics, sports injuries, rehabilitation and extremity problems. He treats disk injuries and sciatica using spinal decompression as well as nutritional evaluations, applied kinesiology and contact reflex analysis. He is a certified specialist in spinal corrective exercises and is a fellow of the Academy of Applied Spinal Biomechanical Engineering.

## **Breakout Speaker** | SARAH MAPLES | EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES



Sarah Maples is a former Air Force Intelligence officer (2000-2007) and an Afghanistan veteran. She is the creator of "After the DD-214," a veterans resource blog. Before starting "After the DD-214," she served as an Academic Advisor and VA School Certifying Official. Sarah has a Master's in Strategic Intelligence from American Military University, a B.A. in German and Russian from Tulane University, and is currently pursuing an MFA in Creative Writing from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Her work has been featured in Line of Advance and Task & Purpose.



**If you have questions about your education benefits be sure to attend Sarah's Breakout session or catch up with her during the conference.**

## **Breakout Speaker** | ROBIN FERNANDEZ | LIFE COACHING



Robin Fernandez is a leadership coach, corporate trainer, speaker, writer, and professional performer. Through her company, Nature of Being, Robin helps others develop more effective communication, confidence, public speaking and presentation skills, develop emotional agility, and build leadership presence. She is a certified coach and graduate of the ontological coach training program at Newfield Network in Boulder, CO and is a credentialed member of the International Coach Federation. Robin has a B.A. in Performing Arts-Theatre from American University in Washington, D.C., and is a member of Actor's Equity Association.



The Karma Yoga Outreach Program of Garden of the Heart Yoga Center  
**FREE Yoga Classes** for Veterans & their Family Members

Taught by Cheryl Chaffee, ERYT-500, Director of Garden of the Heart Yoga Center.

**Where:** 2888 Ringling Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34237

**When:** Wednesdays 3:30-4:30

**More Info:** [harriet@gardenoftheheart yoga.com](mailto:harriet@gardenoftheheart yoga.com)



**JOIN US SUNDAY AT 7AM ON THE SUNDECK  
FOR CONNECT WARRIOR YOGA  
BEGINNERS ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND**

## ***Breakout Speaker* | CRISTA L. SHAW | RESUMES & INTERVIEWS**



Crista L. Shaw, MS, VRC and CEO of Passport to Education is an educator and consultant on Section 504 and the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Her work involves patient and physician education, and teaching job acquisitions skills in her volunteer work. She is vice president of the Palm Harbor Area Senior Council and a member of the Sarasota Citizens Concerned About Education Veterans Forum Subcommittee. Her Passport to Education Classroom-to-Employment Publications assists individuals and families struggling with an illness or condition that creates a barrier to education or employment. Her success with approximately 1000 college students who applied reasonable accommodation in their college classes is the foundation of her mission and publications. Her publications guide individuals at risk who will benefit from 504/ADA reasonable accommodation including: veteran job seekers with disability seeking a confidential path to explore choices; college bound high school students on an Individual Education Plan or 504 Plan needing self-advocacy skills to attain service; physicians seeking solutions for the impact of their patients' diagnoses in classroom and employment settings; and businesses seeking reasonable accommodation ideas for recruitment and retention of talent. Ms. Shaw invites us all to join in her national initiative to implement equal access in US classrooms and work places.

## ***Breakout Speaker* | SUE ANN GARRISON, PH.D | MST PREVALENCE/TREATMENT**



Sue Ann Garrison, Ph.D., MSA, graduated from Texas Tech University and completed her predoctoral clinical internship at the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System. Following completion of her internship, she became a staff psychologist with the Center for Sexual Trauma Services, and eventually assumed the position of program director. She relocated to Pensacola, Florida in 2003 and began working at the Gulf Coast VA Health Care System as the PTSD Coordinator. In that capacity, she provided individual and group therapy for combat-related PTSD as well as military sexual trauma services. She also completed a Masters of Science degree in Healthcare Administration from the University of West Florida. She returned to the Center for Sexual Trauma Services as a treatment team member in January 2009 and became program manager in June 2009. In addition to providing managerial oversight of the program, she provides individual and group services to outpatients and residential patients. Dr. Garrison was recently selected to become the Chief of all Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs at Bay Pines.

## ***Opening Singer* | SHARON SCOTT | OPENING SINGER**



Internationally renowned performer with a powerful and unforgettable voice, Sharon Scott has appeared in multiple productions including the annual "Black Nativity" musical in St. Petersburg. She has performed in a concert series with the Sarasota Orchestra as well as in "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "Nunsense." She also wrote and starred in "Just as I Am: The Life, The Times, The Voice of Mahalia Jackson," and received the John Ringling Towers Award in performing arts.

## ***Evening Entertainment* | PHILADELPHIA "PHILLY" PLOWDEN | COMEDIAN**



Philly Plowden is one of the soundest actors/comedians/emcees working today. His observations and revelations about the human condition mixed with stories from his own life, take an audience on a 200mph trip that could stop at any point along the journey. His ability to relate to people from different walks of life has made him a favorite in the cruise ship industry, comedy clubs, and corporate events. He has done commercial work for Sweetbay Supermarkets and Cash America and appeared on Season Three of America's Got Talent. Taking a journey with Philly is a fun experience.

*Videography* | TED KOSZARSKI | VIDEO "YOUR STORY MATTERS"



Ted Koszarski is the director of the Veterans Memorial Archive, a project to record, preserve and distribute the videotaped memories of our World War II and other veterans. Currently there are 650 interviews. There is an educational web site associated with the project; [veteransmemorialarchive.com](http://veteransmemorialarchive.com). Here, teachers, students, anyone really, can visit to see veterans share their stories, and in doing so add to the appreciation we all have for the men and women who have served in the military.



Please join us Saturday afternoon for an exciting opportunity to let people throughout the country learn about the contributions you have made as a woman veteran. Join Ted for a short interview to share your stories, thoughts, and reflections with the aim of posting this material on our educational website [veteransmemorialarchive.com](http://veteransmemorialarchive.com). This project has the support of State Sen. Nancy Detert and the Sarasota County School Board. Every participant will receive a free DVD copy of Saturday's footage.



*Special Guests*

MAYOR OF SARASOTA, Willie Shaw

MS MARY O'BANNON,

SW FL Regional Director for US Senator Bill Nelson

STUDENTS OF SARASOTA MILITARY ACADEMY

Lead by Willie Dixon, First Sergeant (Ret), US Army, JROTC Instructor.

Thank you for your generous donation

*James & Margaret Dirmann*

Thank you for your generous donation

*Pat Wear & Leslie Wilson*

# *Thank You Sponsors and Donors*

## *Diamond \$2500+*

Florida Veterans for Common Sense Fund  
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United Rental  
Anonymous Fund, Community Foundation of Sarasota

## *Platinum \$1000+*

Goodwill Manasota  
Anthony Hardie  
Jeannette Lee  
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Veterans for Common Sense  
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## *In Memory of the Fallen*

## *Sticks + Twigs Sand Mandala-making at the Florida Women Veterans Conference*



You are invited to join Marcia Calderon and Cynthia Bydlinski  
as we relax, play and have fun in the sand.

Inspired by **CREATING COMMUNITY**  
you'll connect the joy of being out in nature with an invitation to create a temporary  
sand mandala using sticks, twigs and other objects found at the beach.

**What:** *Sticks + Twigs Sand Mandala-making* (a mandala is a circle)  
at Florida Women Veterans Conference 2015

**Where:** Lido Beach, Sarasota, FL

**When:** Day, Date from hour to hour—weather permitting

**DRESS COMFORTABLY TO COME PLAY IN THE SAND!**

By respecting nature we respect ourselves.  
*Any objects brought to the beach will return home with us when we leave the beach.*

**Presented by Cynthia Bydlinski and Marcia Calderon  
Graduates of the Art & Healing Certificate Program at Ringling College**

## Resource Providers

### **Bay Pines VA Healthcare System**

**Julia Adams, RN, MSN**

Women Veterans Healthcare

Program Manager

Julia.adams@va.gov

727-398-6661

### **Bay Pines VA Regional Office**

**Elaine Westermeyer**

Women Veterans Coordinator

Elaine.Westermeyer@va.gov

727-319-7761

### **Florida Veterans for Common Sense**

**Gene Jones, President**

Email: flveterans@aol.com

Phone: 941-400-4256

www.floridaveteransforcommonsense.org

### **Goodwill Manasota**

**C.J. Bannister, Director,**

**American & Their Families Initiative**

Email: cj.bannister@gimi.org

**Heather Hopewell,**

**Veterans Services Advisor**

Phone: 941-355-2721

www.experiencegoodwill.org

### **Professionals Assisting Military**

**Family & Friends (PAMFF)**

**Joyce Rubin, President**

Email: pamffsarasota@gmail.org

Phone: 941-224-1094

www.pamff.org

### **United Rental**

**Brittany Newall, Alexa Dellarocco,**

**& Amanda Miller**

Email: amiller6@ur.com

Phone: 203-618-7129

www.unitedrental.com

### **Veterans for Common Sense**

**Anthony Hardie, Director**

Email: anthony@veteransforcommonsense.org

Phone: 608-239-4658

www.veteransforcommonsense.org

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars Dept. of**

**Florida. Amber Putnam,**

**Senior Vice Commander**

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Phone: 727-455-5875

**Karen Nigara, Dept. Adjutant**

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### **Women's Resource Center**

**Ashley Brown, Executive Director**

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Phone: 941- 747-6797

www.wrcmanatee.org



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