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| **The 48th Annual Florida Veteran Affairs/Florida Association of Veteran Education Specialists (FAVES) Conference**  **“Exploring New Frontiers With FAVES, Saddle Up”** | | | |
| **June 1st-June 5th, 2025 | St. Pete Beach, Florida** | | | |
| **Saturday May 31, 2025 (Pre-Conference)** | | | |
| 4:00-7:00 | Pre-conference workday for Board Members (pre-registration workroom) | | |
| **Sunday June 1st, 2025 (Pre-Conference)** | | | |
| 12:00-2:00 | Board Meeting – Overview of Conference Responsibilities Snowy Egret | | |
| 3:00-6:00 | Early Registration – Dinner on your own | | |
| **Monday June 2nd , 2025** | | | |
| **General Session – Island Grand Ballroom** | | | |
| 7:00-8:30 | Registration continues – Continental Breakfast *(Ticket Required)* |  | |
| 8:30-8:45 | Opening Remarks  Colors Presented by Color Guard  National Anthem  Pledge | | Denise Asselta, President  MacDill Honor Guard  Jonathan Pintos |
| 8:45-9:00 | Introduction FAVES Board | | Denise Asselta, President FAVES |
| 9:00 -9:15 | Introduction of SAA Reps | | Betsy Wickham, Bureau Chief |
|  | Introduction of Guest Speakers for the week | |  |
| 9:15-10:00 | Keynote Speaker | | Retired Rear Admiral Christopher Asselta |
| 10:00 -10:15 | Service Award Announcement | | Mike Mitchell, FAVES Vice President |
| 10:15-10:30 | Break | | |
| 10:30-11:00 | Student Veterans of America (SVA) | | Jared Lyon, National President & CEO |
| 11:00-11:30 | Student Veteran Panel | | Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University & University of South Florida |
| 11:30-12:00 | Sponsored Group “Camp McCormick” <https://register.campmccormick.com/> | | Caity Wall, Horses and Heroes Manager |
| 12:00-1:15 | Lunch Provided –Mediterranean Monday *(Ticket Required)* | | |
| **General Session – Island Grand Ballroom** | | | |
| 1:15-1:30 | VA Name Game Kahoot’s with Prizes | Sandra Torres Pintos & Melissa Ludlam | |
| 1:30-3:00 | SAA Updates | | Betsy Wickham, Bureau Chief |
| 3:00-3:30 | Break – Snack Break *(Ticket Required)* | |  |
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| **Monday June 2nd , 2025** | | | | | |
| **SAA Area Breakouts** | | | | | |
| 3:30-5:30 | **SAA Area North**  ***Long***  Sondra Goodman & Ingrid Abernathy | **SAA Area South**  ***Sawyer***  Dale Towery, Madeline Mendez, & Doris Torres | **SAA Area East**  ***Tarpon***  Brad Gilkes & Kelli Colborne | | **SAA Area West**  ***Indian/Bird***  Nate Knight & Bill Graydon |
|  | *See Above for your Breakout Location*  Topics Discussed include:   * Approval Letter and Verifying the WEAMS Report * Catalog and Program Spreadsheet Submission to SAA Q&A * Question & Answer – Time to talk about specifics with unusual cases * Natural Disasters and School Closures * Best Practices for SCO’s * New Application Process | | | | |
| 6:00 | **Business Card Mingle**  Come meet FAVES Board members and enjoy the beautiful St. Pete sunset! | | | **Location Garden Courtyard & Breezeway:** -Check in to receive your 1 free drink tickets. Bring your business cards! Light Hord ’oeuvres available | |
|  | **Dinner on Your Own** | | |  | |

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| **Tuesday June 3rd, 2025** |

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| **Breakout Training Series** | | | | | | |
| 7:00-8:30 | Breakfast on your Own | | | | | |
| **Rooms** | ***Bird/Indian Key* 126** | ***Sawgrass 60*** | ***Tarpon/Long/Sawyer Key 318*** | | | ***Jasmine/Palm/Sable 150*** |
| 8:30-9:15 | **TA and EDD** Monica Wiesmann-Hirchert, Army Ignited and Glenn O’Brian, EDD -Virtual | **Leveraging Technology to Increase Productivity** Danyell Mack and Troy East | **NCD Programs** -Kate Caruso, VA NTT Virtual | | | **VR&E** Counselor to SCO views in EM and Tungsten best practice Ayleen Alago & Victoria Antoinette |
| 9:20-10:20 | **TA and EDD**  Monica Wiesmann-Hirchert, Army Ignited and Glenn O’Brian, EDD-Virtal | **VA and Financial Aid –** Lisa Goss and Steve Kenney | **VA Work Study Programs –** Kevin White, VA NTT, Virtual | | | **VA S.A.V.E. – Four ways you can support a Veteran in Crisis–**  Elizabeth Newsome, LCSW-QS VA Bay Pines VA HealthCare System |
| 10:20-10:30 | Break | | | | | |
| 10:30-11:15 | **Bursar/Business office troubleshooting payment issues with DMC - Virtual**  Nicole Haselberger, Assistant Chief VA DMC | **SVA- Legislative Landscape** Faisal Sulman, JD SVA Government Affairs Legal Fellow | | **Vocation & IHL Flight programs-** Steven Nelle, VA NTT, Virtual | **VR&E** Counselor to SCO views in EM and Tungsten best practice Ayleen Alago & Victoria Antoinette | |
| **School Troubleshooting Breakout Sessions** | | | | | | |
| 11:20-12:15 | **IHL with NCD/NCD Troubleshooting** | **Flight Troubleshooting** | **Public IHL Troubleshooting** | | | **Private IHL Troubleshooting** |
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| 12:15-1:30 | Lunch Provided – Latin Lunch *(Ticket Required)* | | | | | |

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| **Tuesday June 3rd, 2025** |
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| **Rooms** | ***Bird/Indian Key* 126** | ***Tarpon/Long/Sawyer Key 318*** | ***Jasmine/Palm/Sable 150*** |
| 1:30:300 | **Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) Training –** Andrew MacPherson, St Petersburg College | **Enrollment Manager-** Shay Norton-Leonard and Fahtimah Mamdo**,** VA NTT, Virtual | **VA S.A.V.E. – Four ways you can support a Veteran in Crisis–**Elizabeth Newsome, LCSW-QS VA Bay Pines VA HealthCare System |

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| 3:00-3:30 | Break - Snack Break *(Ticket Required)* |

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| 3:30 – 4:30 | **Creating a Successful SVA Chapter**  Vanessa Ryan, Vice President of Chapter and Community Engagement | **Yellow Ribbon programs-** Traveon Ward Sr., VA NTT - Virtual | **Surviving as a one person Veterans Resource Officer/SCO –** Rose Marie Cobb |

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| **Sizzle 6:00 – 10:00 (Pavilion)** |
| The annual Tuesday Night Sizzle Social Reception: Meet and greet with full dinner provided 6:00 to 8:00. Talk with your Peers and Presenters while enjoying great food, entertainment, and refreshments.  The SIZZLE has “Gone Country” this year. Dress in your favorite western attire to sizzle the night away.  Food will be provided, with live entertainment including, a dance area, free photo booth, caricature artists and more!!! Professionals will mix drinks, and a wide range of other refreshments will be available for $3 a ticket or 4 tickets for $10. Donation of drink tickets will go to Camp McCormick, a 501c3 charity. The lights go down and the dance floor intensifies at 8pm until 10pm.  SIZZLE is free for all conference registrants, and FAVES members may bring up to **one** guest for free. All other adult guests must pay $60 on Whova or at the door with CashApp to enjoy the festivities.  **Adults only please**. Trade Winds offers childcare at the expense of the parents.  Sponsored in part by "Visit St. Pete", The Trade Winds and FAVES. |

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| **Wednesday June 4th , 2025** | | |
| 7:00-8:30 | Full Breakfast *(Ticket Required)* | |
| **General Session – Island Grand Ballroom** | | |
| 8:30-9:30 | **SCO Training Requirements** | Brittany Tennant, VA NTT Virtual |
| 9:30-10:30 | **NAVPA Updates** | Dr. Jan Del Signore |
| 10:30-10:40 | Break |  |
| 10:40-11:30 | Veteran Readiness &Employment Updates | Cheyenna Irwin, Deputy Director, Virtual |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | FAVES Membership Meeting (Voting)  *Biz card mingle winner & Raffle Drawing* | Mike, Vice President FAVES |
| 12:00-1:15 | Lunch Provided – Florida Coast *(Ticket Required)* | |
| 1:15-2:15 | **Fireside Chat** - VA Central Office Updates | Virtual Kenneth Smith, Acting Executive Director Education Service Veteran Benefits Administration |
| 2:15-2:30 | New Board Announcement  FAVES Service Award Recipients | Denise, FAVES President  Mike Mitchell, FAVES Vice President |
| 2:30-3:30 | 85/15 | Virtual Kate Caruso, VA NTT |
| 3:30-3:45 | Break – Snack Break *(Ticket Required)* |  |
| 3:45 - 4:45 | Compliance Surveys | Virtual Heather Cates, VA NTT |
|  | Dinner on Own |  |
| 7:30 PM | Sunset Yoga on the Beach | Audrianna Goss, USF Rec and Wellness Coordinator |

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| **Thursday June 5th, 2025** | | | |
| 7:00-8:30 | | Breakfast on your own | |
| **General Session** | | | |
| 8:30-9:30 | | Debt Management: How to Prevent School Debt | Nicole Haselberger, Assistant Chief VA DMC , Virtual |
| 9:30-9:45 | | Grand Prize Giveaway – Must be Present to win! | |
| 9:45- 10:15 | | Florida Department of Veteran Affairs Updates Al Carter, Chief of Staff | |
| 10:15-10:45 | | Break (Reminder: Check out of Room!) | |
| 10:45-11:45 | | Risk Based Survey and Supervisory Visits Betsy Wickham, Bureau Chief | |
| 11:45-12:00 | | Closing Remarks: Mike,  Incoming President FAVES Adjourn – Safe Travels Home | |
| 12:30-5:00 | | Board Meeting (Working Lunch) Old and New Board Snowy Egret | |
| **Friday June 6th, 2025 (Post-Conference)** | | | |
| 9:00-1:00 | Board Meeting (Final Debriefing) (New Board) | | |

**SCO Training Credits:**

*FAVES June 2025- SCO training requirements*

*FAVES June 2025-Enrollment Manager*

*FAVES June 2025-NCD programs*

*FAVES June 2025-Vocational & IHL Flight Programs,*

*FAVES June 2025-Work Study Programs*

*FAVES June 2025-Yellow Ribbon Programs*

*FAVES June 2025 – Legislative updates- VA Central Office*

*FAVES June 2025 – Compliance Survey*

*FAVES June 2025- 85/15*

*FAVES June 2025 Debt Management- How to prevent School Debt*

*FAVES June 2025 Risk Based Survey and Supervisory Visits*

We look forward to seeing you at Island Grand a Tradewinds Resort!