

THE MARAUDER

Gold Coast Chapter 351 Quarterly Newsletter



JANUARY-March 2016

www.GoldCoastAFA.org

Pres: V.S. Montalvo vsm.cap@gmail.com

GoldCoastAFA@gmail.com

MISSION The Air Force Association educates the public about the critical role of aerospace power in the defense of our nation; advocates aerospace power and a strong national defense; and supports the United States Air Force and the Air Force Family and aerospace education.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: To update your email address or Unsubscribe please email: membership@afa.org

AFA's 70th Birthday by B.Dongu

Excerpts from February Issue of AFA Magazine--decades details- p 73

In February 2016, the Air Force Association celebrated its 70th years of supporting the Air Force family. Following the end of World War II, General Hap Arnold searched for a way to keep Army Air Forces veterans together and to advocate for a strong, independent Air Force. This task planted the seed for the creation of AFA. General Doolittle became its first president.

For 70 years the Air force Association has served as the *Force Behind the Force*. As we celebrate this birthday, we thank the dedicated members who have contributed to AFA's mission and participated in all that it has accomplished.

From President's desk: This year the Gold Coast Chapter celebrates its 50th year of continuous participation in and support of the Air Force Association.

A brief history of Gold Coast Chapter 351

By Ran Meriam, former chapter president

The chapter was chartered March 28, 1966. An early but important milestone in our history occurred in 1970 when the late Bob Rawls, a chapter member and the then he Ft. Lauderdale Executive Airport, secured a North American

SAVE THESE DATES:

March 23 Luncheon celebrating the Tuskegee's 75th Anniversary.

April 1 Register for Fleet Week May 2-9
website: Broward Navy Day

April 20 Wednesday, Chapter Council meeting; 1pm
At FXE, Banyan Bldg. All members invited.

May2-9 Fleet Week; Ft Lauderdale Fla

May7-8 Ft Lauderdale Air Show

May30-Memorial Day; attend your city's program

APR-MAY, AFA Award Presentations to JROTC and CAP cadets. If you would like to participate email vsm.cap@gmail.com

July15,16 AFA Florida State Conference
Registration form on page 4

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Aviation F-86H Sabre Jet for the City to display from the Maryland Air National Guard. The jet arrived in 1970 and installed on a pedestal in Ft. Lauderdale's Holiday Park in 1974 after de-militarization was completed. The jet enjoyed 25 years of exposure to millions of citizens and visitors during that time. In May, 1999, under the auspices of our chapter, the jet was removed and trucked to Homestead Air Reserve Base for re-conditioning after its long exposure. The chapter paid the \$7000 cost of materials and the labor was provided free by the USAF. The jet was returned to the City in the summer of 2003 but was not remounted at the Park until Veteran's Day, 2004. Hurricane Wilma knocked it down and did considerable damage in October, 2005. The iconic fighter was then

repaired and repainted by American Aero Services of New Smyrna Beach and remounted on Veteran's Day of 2009. Our chapter has always taken a very proactive role in ensuring its ongoing display and maintenance. In 1992 and in 1996, the chapter facilitated static air shows with what was then called the Confederate Air Force now (CAF- the Commemorative Air Force) out of Midland, Texas. Gold Coast also planned and executed a gala celebration in September, 1997, noting 50 years since the U. S. Air Force was established.

And between 1998 and 2004, the chapter managed 6 air shows at the Pompano Beach Air Park. These shows were noted for the broad array of aircraft displayed in the morning and the flying exhibitions that were done in the afternoon. Sadly, expenses of doing these shows grew faster than revenues from them, so these large undertakings were ended after the 2004 show.

Our chapter has also conducted Teacher Workshops, emphasizing to the attending teachers the promise of embracing STEM Programs in their classrooms. The chapter takes a commanding role in the yearly December event, Wreaths Across America, at the beautiful Veteran's Cemetery in Palm Beach County.

Our Teacher of the Year (ToY) candidates through the years have garnered the prestigious recognition of being named ToY for the State no less than 3 times.

Chapter representatives are always present at the yearly Challenge Air Event in January at the Ft. Lauderdale Executive Airport. And most certainly we are there to help coordinate and welcome the periodic visits from the Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom Tour as well as the less-frequent but equally exciting visits from the CAF and its one-of-a-kind B-29A Superfortress bomber, FIFI.

Thank you members for your support in helping the Gold Coast Chapter as it continues to be all things AFA! ***

KUDOS



We proudly celebrate AFA Gold Coast Chapter's first member of 2016 of the 50th year of our chapter's participation with the AFA. The Air Force Association also celebrates its 70th year as the Force behind the Force

Membership VP Bob Morris on the right discovered that it did not take much to persuade WWII veteran Robert Livingston to join the ranks of the Air Force Association. Mr. Livingston was a Staff Sergeant with the 511th Bomb Squadron, 351st Bomb Group, flying out of Polebrook, England from May to July 1943. He flew different Flying Fortress in the group as a waist gunner and is very proud of his many medals. ***

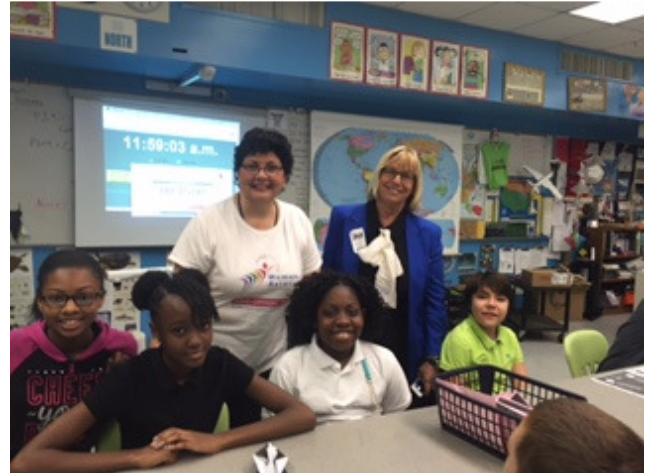
Educator's Column



**Virginia Knudsen-
AFA National Award
Winning Teacher**

**Ms Knudsen, STEM teacher at
Lauderhill, Parkway Middle School STEM Magnet
Principal: Mr B. Mattair**

March 8th was the 106 anniversary of the world's first female pilot license and International Women Day.



Ms Knudsen on the left invited FAU instructor Barbara Ganson, on the right, to speak to her students about the contributions of women in the field of Aviation . The hope was to engage both girls and boys enough to spark a longtime interest in aviation. Ms Ganson informed the students that there were many opportunities in numerous areas of aviation with good paying jobs available in Florida, which is now an important center of aeroflight industries.

For the Women in Aviation Worldwide Week, Pilots, Ms Knudsen and Ms Ganson headed up an event designed to get the Parkway STEM students into the Guinness Book of World Records, which was...

Pink Paper Planes, yes , that's right. The challenge was to see how many pink paper planes could be folded in fifteen minutes in a specific way at a specific time of a specific day. Ms Ganson and two AFA Gold Coast members were the judges. It was a blast! The event was video taped and you can see it on u-tube. ***

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRoa-xAirFM&feature=player_detailpage

AFA Gold Coast Chapter's presence at Gulfstream Park's DAY to HONOR



Our chapter was invited to join other veteran groups to the 4th annual "Day to Honor" at the Gulfstream Park on March 5th. Bob Morris, our Membership VP volunteered to represent us and to bring public awareness to the AFA.

The "Day to Honor" shows appreciation to military service men and women and their families. It also provides organizations that support them with opportunities for community outreach awareness. ***

March 22 – Tuskegee's 75th Anniversary



Photo- Jill Beach

To mark the day and honor one of the few remaining Tuskegee Red Tail Pilots Lt. Col Leo Gray, the VITAS group sponsored a luncheon at the Ft Lauderdale Executive Airport Jet Runway Cafe. Photo –Posing in the forefront of the Commemorative Air Force's B17 are the Tuskegee Members in red jackets and friends from the "Honor Flight" organization.

See Photo Essay of Tuskegee History in the March issue of the AFA Magazine.

Gold Coast 351 Officers for 2016

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Virginia Montalvo-President | Leo R Gray - Vice President |
| Joseph Roberts-Treasurer | Loretta Young-Veteran Affairs |
| Bob Morris-Membership | Bob Marks-Government Affairs |
| Virginia Knudsen – Aerospace | Justin Burr-Webmaster |

I MILT'S Memoirs I



Sometime in the early 70s, I was flying for the New York Air National Guard. We picked up a load of cargo on the west coast, destination, Tainan, Taiwan. Upon arrival at our destination, the ground controller asked if we would take a (GCA) Ground Controlled Approach from a student controller. The weather was clear and the student controller, a Taiwanese by the accent, proceeded to give us directional and altitude corrections as he led us to the airfield. As we approached for landing, we were missing the runway by about a half a mile. I announced at this time that I was now taking over for the landing.

About 2 months later, Frank and I (Frank was the same fellow Instructor Pilot as I) were flying the same route to Taiwan, however, upon arrival, the weather was really down. The ground controller announced that the conditions at Tainan were a ceiling of 300 feet and 1/2 mile of visibility. I believe I recognized the same voice of the Taiwanese controller as two months previously. I announced to Frank, "No Way". I called to the controller, "That is beyond my personal minimums. I am proceeding to my alternate airfield, Taichung".

Old pilots stay alive by instinct & maintaining a modicum of caution no matter how good they think they are. By Milt Markowitz ***



Civil Air Patrol begins 75th Anniversary

2016 is a celebratory banner year for volunteer organizations that have continuously supported the USAF and its missions from their inception. World War II Aviators with a fierce desire to keep our nation's Air Force strong and viable in 1947 accomplished its first objective: to establish the Air Force as a separate branch. Leaders, then & now, of AFA, CAP and Tuskegee, Inc, also see the need to educate the public on the necessity for air & space dominance; to bring honor to our veterans by remembering their accomplishments and promote youth programs for advancements in STEM & Cyberspace.

Civil Air Patrol, the AFA's sister organization, was founded in December 7 1941 with such ideals. In 1946 President Truman signed its incorporation making CAP, the official civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. CAP's fleet of airplanes with its volunteer skilled pilots and crewmembers serve the nation with Search & Rescue missions, etc. CAP's other missions are the Cadet Program and Aviation/Aerospace Education. ***



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
Falcon Chapter 399 Incorporated
NORTH EAST FLORIDA



Florida State Convention on July 15 & 16, 2016

The Falcon Chapter is hosting the AFAFL Convention at the Lexington Hotel Riverwalk in Downtown Jacksonville. If you are attending the convention, please respond to this form with your check no later than June 10, 2016. We cannot guarantee the availability of hotel rooms if reservations are received after this date. By directly paying the chapter, you will save room and sales taxes totaling 13 percent. Room rates include two breakfast tickets and free self-parking.

Hotel Rooms:

Number of rooms ___ x number of nights ___ x \$109.00 = \$ _____

(Room rate consist of two guest per room)

Number of extra guests per room (maximum four) ___ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Events:

Wine tasting at the Peninsular on Thursday, July 14 ___ x N/C = \$-0-
 (Early Bird Event)

Delegate Registration for Convention ___ x \$20.00 = \$ _____

Friday, July 15 Evening River Cruise with Dinner ___ x \$60.00 = \$ _____
 (Boarding at 5:30 PM/Ship leaves at 6:00 PM)

Saturday, July 16 Buffet Luncheon ___ x \$20.00 = \$ _____

Saturday, July 16 Dinner ___ x \$25.00 = \$ _____
 (___ Beefs/ ___ Chickens/ ___ Salad/Vegetarian / ___)

Total payable to AFA Falcon Chapter Number 399 \$ _____

Please mail your completed form and check to:

Ernest L. Webster
 1822 Brush Hill Drive
 Jacksonville, FL 32211
ewebs13@hotmail.com

For additional information on the AFAFL 2016 Convention please call Bruce A. Fouraker at 904-737-2379 or 904-521-8026. Or Falcon President Larry Belge 904-645-9243.

OFFICER

PRESIDENT

Lawrence (Larry) A Belge
 904-645-9243
lbelge@bman.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Ransom (Ran) Meriam
 904-579-4329
Worham10@telisouth.net

SECRETARY

Major Erin Shirley (USAF Ret)
 904-434-1899
erin@boomcast.net

TREASURER

Ernest L (Ernie) Webster
 904-724-8782
ewebs13@hotmail.com

**VICE PRESIDENT
 AEROSPACE EDUCATION**

Carla Chin
 904-519-7888
chin188@boomcast.net

**VICE PRESIDENT
 COMMUNICATIONS**

Lawrence (Larry) Belge
 904-645-9243
lbelge@bman.com

**VICE PRESIDENT
 GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

Bruce A Fouraker
 904-737-2379
bruce_fouraker@telisouth.net

**VICE PRESIDENT
 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT/
 COMMUNICATIONS**

Frank W Koobrae
 904-703-0102
fkoo@telisouth.net

**VICE PRESIDENT
 MEMBERSHIP**

John DeNys
 904-551-0880
ese_inc@yahoo.com

**VICE PRESIDENT
 VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Medra L Keyser
 904-277-2842
jst142@aol.com

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