

THE MARAUDER

Gold Coast Chapter 351 Quarterly Newsletter



JUNE 2013

Pres: V.S. Montalvo CAP.VSM@juno.com

<http://goldcoast351.org/news.htm>

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: blarson@afa.org

President's Message:

Recently, the Volunteer Service Award was presented in Washington to two very deserving volunteers. However, generally volunteers are not recognized enough for their contributions to their communities. Two weeks ago, one of Gold Coast Chapter's working council members passed away suddenly. Harvey Bennett was a volunteer. A volunteer? That does not sound very earthmoving. But, to those of us who are volunteers that says a lot. And that says a lot about Harvey too. Harvey was a decorated navy veteran, a family man and businessman.

Lt Col Bennett as he was known in Civil Air Patrol volunteered 25 years plus for CAP. There he wore many hats from the squadron level to the Florida Wing. He was an aviation enthusiast extremely proud of his flying accomplishments. His commitment as a volunteer to the aviation community gave him the opportunity to sit on the advisory board of the FTL Executive Airport as well as on the aviation board of the City of Ft Lauderdale. As a member of the AFA, Harvey served actively on the Gold Coast council for seven years, two of those years as the president.

Harvey was a gentleman. He was responsible, involved and committed to the tasks before him. He had a great sense of humor making us laugh many times. We are honored to have called Harvey a friend and one of our own.

Harvey was a volunteer!

National Conference, Sept 14-16;

Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition, Sept 16 to 18

Register today to attend the 2013 Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition. The conference is The event that brings together Air Force leadership, industry experts, academia and current event specialists, from around the world to discuss the issues and challenges facing America and the aerospace community today.

Location:Gaylord National Hotel & Convention Center
National Harbor, MD www.afa.org

SAVE THESE DATES:

August 14, Gold Coast Chapter Mtg Banyan Bldg at Ft L Executive Airport; 1PM – all invited

Sept 28, Tour in the works - Look for FLYER

Oct 16, Gold Coast Chapter Mtg Banyan Bldg at Ft L Executive Airport; 1PM – all invited

July 2014- Our Gold Coast Chapter will again host the Florida State Convention. Please save the date and join us.



Virginia Knudsen- 2013 First Runner Up, AFA National Teacher of the Year-From AFA press release

Ms Knudsen is an educator on a mission; a mission to give her time, talents, and resources to as many young people as possible during her past 25 years in education. Being the STEM Science Lead Teacher during the school day for 300 Title I, at-risk students at Parkway Middle School, Ms Knudsen takes a technologically intensive approach to collaborative training with peer teachers for inquiry and project based instruction on atmospheric & geological science and meteorology, rocketry, and civil engineering. She is also the after-school Civil Air Patrol Cadets at School squadron commander for Crystal Lake Middle School. These contributions give Ms Knudsen plenty of

opportunities to use her aviation piloting skills to inspire youth toward a higher level of goal setting in life. She was the program developer and administrator for the 2007-2010 after-school Boys & Girls Clubs “Ionosphere Club of light” for over 300 inner-city youth; developed the Weather Wise Meteorological curriculum for the Broward School District STEM Grant program; has collaborated with Florida Atlantic University’s Engineering Department and graduate students on Parkway Middle School engineering projects; has supervised the NASA Rocketry Student Launch Project National Competition; and has led two teams in the AFA’s CyberPatriot program in 2012 and 2013. She also works with the EAA Young Eagles flights, Challenge Air and Civil Air Patrol, with the Women in Aviation, Naval Air Museum in Ft Lauderdale, Miami Tuskegee Airmen, and AFA Chapter 351 where she has served as the AE workshop director for Broward County Teachers. Ms Knudsen is the epitome of an AFA TOY- touching all areas of education in AFA, CAP, schools, youth organizations, and community outreach. She certainly demonstrates her message to the teaching profession, “A teacher effects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”

FROM MILT MARKOWITZ MEMOIRS:

Our AFA chapter has had a close affiliation with the Women Air Service Pilots (WASPS) of World War II for years in our area. When we were putting on Air Shows some time back, they usually had a table set up so that they could help promote their activities along with other groups. More recently, we have coordinated some of our programs with them.

The first time I ever met a WASP was at Harlingen Army Air Field in Harlingen, Texas. It was September of 1944. I had been assigned for training as a co-pilot in the B-24, four engine Liberator bomber. Harlingen was a gunnery school and the military pilots flying training missions for the gunners were instructor pilots for the new co-pilots. Flying the tow-target planes were WASPS. They flew alongside the bomber, usually in an A-26 Douglas Invader and our gunners fired their machine guns at the targets. Each of the bullets fired from the bomber were painted a different color so that when the target was dropped, the hits by each gunnery student could be scored.

One night at the “O” Club, being 19 years of age and

feeling very proud of my status as an Air Corps officer, sporting shiny pilot wings, I approached a very attractive young lady in WASP uniform, and announced that I was flying the B-24. “Oh”, she replied, “I’ve got about 1200 hours in those things”. In those days, we referred to that kind of situation as “...getting shot down.” I suspect it would be the same today.

Model Aircraft-The chapter has a wholesale account with an aircraft model distributor. We can get you a model of a plane that might have special memories for you or a loved one at less than normal retail cost. Milt Markowitz 561-499-0583 or markf84@att.net



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2013 Summer Fl State Convention minutes will be in next Chapter quarter newsletter.

“Education continues to be a vital part of AFA’s mission and we urge continued attention to the future need for STEM professionals by government, industry, and AFA’s peer organizations. AFA remains vigilant and active in advocating for education programs that focus on the promotion of STEM studies, such as DOD STARBASE, grants and scholarships, Visions of Exploration, CyberPatriot, and others.” Quote from AFA National President’s, Message ***

June Luncheon Speaker



Mr. Ted Duay, seen here with Mrs. Duay is President of Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was the speaker at our June Luncheon. Mr. Duay wore a colorful 1776 regalia as befits a descendant of an American Revolutionary Patriot. He spoke in detail about three of his ancestors who fought in the revolutionary war and how he traced and documented his genealogy back to 1776, the beginning of our American freedoms.

AFA Gold Coast Chapter 351 Involvement in the City of Ft. Lauderdale seeking the 2013 All-America City Award By Ran Meriam

This fun and challenging contest was held from June 14-16 at the Hyatt Grand Hotel in Denver, CO. The National Civic League sponsors this recognition which was first initiated in 1949. The

City has submitted 10 applications for this recognition going back to 1968. Our chapter was invited to be present since we have been involved as the catalyst in the initial receipt, repair, maintenance, restoration, dedication and ongoing display of the F-86H Sabre Jet sited on Sandy Nininger Drive in Holiday Park in Ft. Lauderdale. This year's theme largely focused on Veterans. I was honored to be able to be part of the 39-person contingent from the City. The rules are challenging. Of all submissions, the list is winnowed down to 20 which are then invited to the host city. From the 20, 10 are selected to receive this much-sought-after moniker. Each team has only 10 minutes to present its case to a 12-person panel. This is followed by no more than 10 minutes of Q and A from the panel. Admittedly, before learning of the tightness of the 10 minute timeframe, and how many issues were to be presented, I had thought our jet and our chapter's good work were to be a very pivotal part of the City's application. Sadly, this was not the case, as I was afforded but a few seconds to speak and display a large color picture of the jet.

The City won the Diversity Award, but all would have much preferred to win the elusive All-America City recognition. The 10 winning teams were Birmingham, Downey, Montrose, Peoria, Dubuque, Owensboro, Dunn, Garner, Thomasville and Norfolk.

All in all, it was a special opportunity that I seriously doubt any AFA chapter anywhere has ever had the good fortune to experience.



27th National Veteran

Golden Age Games : Recently held in Buffalo NY brought together veterans, ages 55-and older from around the country to compete in 15 different sports.

Loretta Young, the chapter Veteran Liaison VP competed in a number of events and she was awarded silver for shot put, discus and javelin and won the gold medal for bowling. Pictured above is Loretta receiving her awards.

Congratulations- Gold Coast Chapter CyberPatriot Team reaches semi-final level

Present at the June Luncheon was the winning CyberPatriot Team, Atlantic CHS, from our chapter as well as two mentors from Crystal Lake MS CAP CP Team and two team members from the NorthEast HS CP Team. It was exciting to see the young people and get their opinion about the competition. " I think CyberPatriot is a great way to get kids interested in computers/STEM" said Mr. Safin, Atlantic Community High School Team Coach

For current information on the CyberPatriot 2013Competition please contact: Fran Shaw, the Chapter's CyberPatriot Competition VP. fcs2121@comcast.net

Medal of Honor Recipient Bud Day Dies

Retired Col. **George E. "Bud" Day**, a Medal of Honor recipient who spent nearly six years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam, died on July 27 in Shalimar, Fla., following a long illness. He was 88. "I owe my life to Bud, and much of what I know about character and patriotism," said Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), who was Day's cellmate in captivity in Hanoi. "He was the bravest man I ever knew," said McCain. Day's funeral service is scheduled for Thursday in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., with burial at Barrancas National Cemetery in Pensacola, Fla., according to press reports. A native of Sioux City, Iowa, Day was born on Feb. 24, 1925. He served as a marine in World War II and then became an Air Force pilot during the Korean War. On Aug. 26, 1967, the North Vietnamese shot down Day's F-100 Super Sabre during a dangerous forward air control mission. He endured extreme hardship and torture in captivity. On March 14, 1973, Day regained his freedom. After recuperating, he returned to active flying status. He then retired from active duty in 1977 as the most decorated officer in the service's history and went on to practice law in Florida, becoming a crusader for veterans' issues. Day chronicled his Vietnam War experiences in the 1989 book *Return with Honor*. (See Associated Press report, via the *Colorado Springs Gazette*, and *Sioux City Journal* report.) (See also *The Strength of Bud Day* and *Valor: The Long Road to Freedom* from *Air Force Magazine's* archives.)

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