

THE MARAUDER

Gold Coast Chapter 351 Quarterly Newsletter

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

DECEMBER 2013



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Treasurer: Ran Meriam Warbird10@bellsouth.net

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

Greetings: Thank you for your support this past year. Your membership is important to the chapter and to the AFA. As mentioned in last year's newsletters we were able to accomplish a number of our goals for 2013. Now we look forward to 2014 with excitement especially our plans to host the 2014 summer AFA State Convention in July. We hope you plan to join us.

Please consider two important actions in 2014; renewing your membership and participating in one of our chapter's activities. Excelsior, VSM

National Greetings to the AFA Membership

(excerpts from AFA online December 24, 2013)

The holiday season is once again upon us! In the spirit of the season, we are taking the time to reflect on the past year and thank everyone who helped make 2013 a successful year for the Air Force Association. To our members, volunteers and staff—thank you all of your hard work and dedication to the mission of AFA. We've enjoyed serving as your national officers and working with you on so many of our initiatives.

We started the year in a state of transition at AFA National aligning our staff to better serve you, our members and supporters.

We had a strong showing at the Air Warfare Symposium in February in Orlando as the Central Florida Chapter. We continue to offer scholarship opportunities and support for all those in the wide-reaching Air Force family, including spouses. And, with an official MOU partnering with the Air Force, our Wounded Airman Program gives back to service members facing needs long-term wounds and illnesses.

SAVE THESE DATES:

Jan.15-Gold Coast Chapter Mtg Banyan Bldg at Ft Lauderdale Executive Airport; 1PM - **all invited**

Jan 10-12-Military Show Pompano Elk's

Jan.25-Challenge Air at Banyan Hangar

Ft Lauderdale Executive Airport 9am to 4 pm

An event highly recommended by GC Member

Jan. TBA- Four Chaplain Ceremony; Dania

Coast Guard Station; info. lorettavung@yahoo.com

Feb.7-9 Collings Foundation WWII Airbirds; Ft

Lauderdale Executive Airport, Banyan Hangar 63 -

Feb. 12-16 Collings Foundation WWII Airbirds;

Boca Airport; for info. Markf84@att.net

Mar. 2 AFA Florida State Winter Meeting &

JROTC Drill Meet at UCF in Orlando. **First Quarter**

Dinner Meeting TBA

Apr. 20&21- Ft Lauderdale Air Show

Apr.28-May 5- Fleet Week, Ft Lauderdale



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

We have also expanded our Airman and Family Programs while also serving the needs of our Wounded Airmen.

We are already looking ahead to next year. Thousands of our dedicated Airmen are still overseas in harm's way, and we're proud to support them and advocate on their behalf. The courage, dedication, and sacrifice of our Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve men and women in uniform, along with their civilian counterparts, industry partners, and all their families, are extraordinary. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers this holiday season.

It is you – the volunteers, and staff at the national headquarters and all of our members –that let AFA fulfill its mission. At heart, AFA is and always has been built on our grassroots membership

As each year passes, AFA continues to be actively engaged in reaching out to the public. We continue to **educate** the public about aerospace issues and have taken several initiatives. With the expansion of CyberPatriot, we are able to reach out to younger generations and encourage studies in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). This year's competition reached over 1,550 teams, and we look to further expand next school year into the middle schools and summer camps. The Air Force Breakfast series continues to allow Air Force leadership to interact with industry leaders, the media, and the public.

Our efforts to **advocate** have been supported by discussions on Capitol Hill, Air Power Advocates groups, media outreach, and fast-growing social media activity. Our top issues remain a priority, and our newest Statement of Policy stands as a testament to those issues. We fought the budget battle against sequestration, highlighting the damage to readiness, and helped to protect commander influence in the UCMJ for sexual assault and other serious cases. and we are now engaged opposing the targeting of retired pay to source the recent Budget Agreement. We continue our Military Coalition involvement, and have mission.

From your AFA National Officers and the professional staff, may your holiday season be filled with much joy and happiness, and we look forward to a new year of successes in 2014.

Happy New Year

Wreaths Across America



Once again, the Gold Coast Chapter members supported the Wreaths Across America event at the Lake Worth Cemetery. Since 2007 when AFA President VSMontalvo organized the first WAA ceremony, the outpouring of contributions to purchase wreaths has increased to the point where it seemed that this year every gravesite had a holiday wreath placed on it. Among the many veteran groups, family and many friends were our special friends, pictured below- four veterans from the Korean War Post posing with the Gold Coast Chapter's VP, Milt Markowitz. All participated in the WAA ceremony to Remember the Fallen and Honor those who served. VSM



Chapter President –VSMontalvo,
Chapter VP- Milt Markowitz,
Treasurer-Ran Meriam,
Veteran Liaison-Loretta Young,
Government VP-Bob Marks, Other council members-Leo Gray,
Fed Richards, Joe Roberts, Sgt. Justin Nachman,

Fallen Heroes Ceremony by Loretta Young

Pompano Beach H.S. AJROTC Unit presented the Seventh Annual Fallen Heroes Ceremony on Thursday, Nov. 7th at the school courtyard. There were 6,000+ flags donated and on display for veterans who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom. Every year this program has grown and improved under the direction of the cadets. The Color Guard lead the opening ceremony with the Posting of Colors. This was followed by the National Anthem, God Bless America and a fly over by the BSO. Opening remarks was given by Principal, Hudson Thomas. LTC Gregory Johnson, Senior Army Instructor acknowledged the WWII veterans in attendance. This was followed by remarks given by: Nora Rupert; School Board Member; Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca, District 4 Coordinator; Chaplain COL R. James Carter, Senior Pastor New Presbyterian Church. The Cadets then gave a demonstration at a replica of the Tomb of the Unkown Soldier complete with the "Changing of the Guard" Ceremony. This also included a presentation of a wreath at the "Tomb". There was a presentation of flags for the 50 states and 6 territories. Then followed a demonstration of the "Flag Retirement Ceremony" and a "Special National Flag Presentation" by the Battalion to the mother of BSO Deputy Daniel Rivera who recently lost his life. This was followed by a "21Gun Salute" and "Taps" in honor of his service. The Cadets then concluded the events with a demonstration of the 13 Folds of our National Flag. I can honestly say with programs such as this, we have confidence that our future is secure with such outstanding young people in our cadet programs.



Ms. VS Montalvo (l), Gold Coast Chapter President congratulates Capt Elizabeth Clark (c) on her appointment of President of the Gulfstream UMMV; the Association of the Merchant Mariners (seamen).

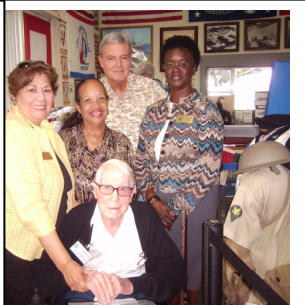
Capt Clark has had an outstanding and impressive career in the Merchant Marines stepping down from the National VP position to take the helm at Gulfstream Chapter. She mentioned that she is also a pilot, CAP member and we trust she will become a supporter of the AFA.

On the right is Ms Mercedes Frasseti, longtime secretary/treasurer of the chapter. VSM

OUR ARE SPECIAL. THEY SUPPORT OUR CHAPTER! PLEASE SUPPORT THEIR BUSINESSES!

Flight 19 Memorial Ceremony

December's AFA luncheon meeting started at the Rustic Crab House. After a delicious seafood lunch the chapter members and guests attended the annual Flight 19 Memorial Ceremony at the Broward County's only military museum- the Naval Air Station Museum- located on the West Perimeter Road of the Ft Lauderdale International Airport. Flight 19 commemorates the tragic loss of a flight of five Navy planes with all its crew off our coast in December 1945. This year this annual event was attended by approx. 200 hundred guests



Pictured seated is Allan McElhiney, the life blood of the museum and the Flight 19 Memorial with AFA members, Virginia Montalvo, Loretta Young, Ran Meriam and on the right our guest, Ms Willowstine Lawson, representative from Senator's Nelson's Office. Also accepting our invitation were Ms Mickle from Senator Nelson's office and Ms Piereschi from Congresswoman's Wasserman/Schultz office. VSM

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