



The Patriot Reader

VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY

CHAIRMAN BILL DUDLEY

VICE CHAIRMAN RAY QUINN

SECRETARY GEORGE APRIL

TREASURER MICHAEL ROTHFELD

Newsletter Editor Michael Rothfeld

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Message from the Chairman

Fellow Veterans,

It has been a month now since my accident and fortunately I am recovering very well albeit not fast enough to suit me but physical therapy 3 days a week is about as much as I care to undertake.

I hope many of you had an opportunity to participate in the dedication of the Bell Tower last month at Jacksonville National Cemetery. I have seen the pictures and video and it was an awesome event. As always, our Vice Chairman Ray Quinn made us proud of the superb job he always does as Master of Ceremony. The addition of the Bell Tower will bring an added dimension

to the services for our Veterans who will enter their final resting place at this beautiful hallowed ground.

You will have an opportunity to observe the carillon bells in operation this month. Our next Missing in America service will be conducted on 28 March 2014 at 1300 at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. I strongly encourage each of you to try to set aside the time to attend this ceremony to honor these Veterans who have been forgotten for so many years in some obscure place. Thanks to Kathy Church and her team, these Veterans will now



be given a final resting place with their comrades and the honors they deserve.

Don't forget our Veterans' Council meeting on Wednesday, 28 March at 1900. This will be our last meeting on Wednesday's. Next month we will go back to the last Thursday of the month in the Dining Room area where we previously met.

Bill Dudley,
Chairman,
Veterans Council of St. Johns County

Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home

Patriotism is our motto



The American Legion Riders visit with the residents in early March.



The Veterans' Group from GE brought Mardi Gras goodies, decorated wheelchairs/walkers and provided great company



Mr. Art and a GE representative enjoying the Mardi Gras Festivities.



One of our valued volunteers facilitating a St. Patrick's Day craft with the ladies



Another of our faithful volunteers...
Saturday Night Gospel Sing



Residents and spouses enjoying the St. Patrick's Day festivities



St. Patrick's Day Party

**Florida National Guard and Dept. of Military Affairs
Family, Military Leaders, Veterans, Civic Leaders:**

It is with profound regret and heavy hearts that we notify you of the passing of a great Florida Guardsman, leader, and former Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Robert F. Ensslin Jr. He died Saturday, March 15. Maj. Gen. Ensslin served as The Adjutant General of Florida from 1982-1992; his presence and leadership will be missed by each member of the Florida National Guard family, as his impact has had a lasting effect on this organization.

He will be buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. There is currently no scheduled date for the military burial.

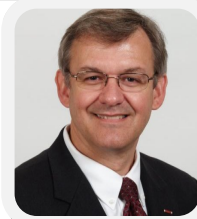
Ensslin joined the Florida Army National Guard in February 1956, serving as a battery officer and battery commander of the 116th Field Artillery Battalion. Rising through the ranks, he commanded at several levels including the Florida Army National Guard's 53rd Infantry Brigade, which he led from 1980-1981. Maj. Gen. Ensslin followed Maj. Gen. Kennedy C. Bullard as Adjutant General of Florida in 1982. He was succeeded as Adjutant General of Florida in 1992 by Maj. Gen. Ronald O. Harrison.

He also served as president of the National Guard Association of the United States.

The Robert F. Ensslin Jr. Armory in St. Augustine was named after the former adjutant general under Florida Senate Bill 1634 in 1993.



The Jacksonville National Cemetery Greetings from the Support Committee at the Jacksonville National Cemetery!



The Support Committee invites everyone to attend its next scheduled meeting on **Monday, April 7th** at 7:00pm. The meeting will take place at Community Hospice, 4266 Sunbeam Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32257 in Conference Room A

Chairman Howard McGillin,
COL US Army ret.

Below is the text of JNC SC Chairman Howard McGillin's remarks at the Carillon Bell Tower Dedication

On behalf of the Support Committee at the Jacksonville National Cemetery welcome to this dedication ceremony. The mission of the Support Committee is to assist and coordinate the efforts of the various volunteer, veterans and service groups supporting the Jacksonville National Cemetery. This wonderful carillon is the product of cooperation between a number of local and national groups.

The heart of an American service-member beats to the rhythm of military music. Daily life is regulated by melodies – reveille, mess call, piping aboard or ashore, retreat and tattoo. It has been that way since the muster on the town greens at Lexington and Concord – undoubtedly accompanied by a drummer boy and perhaps a fife. American military music has always had its own sound – its own timbre – its own beat. Whether it is the simple tune of Yankee Doodle, the rousing complex Sousa marches or the haunting notes of Taps, the heart of the American service-member beats to that tune.



COL McGillin addresses the audience

It is therefore highly appropriate that at this hallowed ground – this place where thousands stand their final formation on watch over American soil that we bring the sounds of this carillon.

This carillon is a perfect example of that cooperation and coordination that the Support Committee seeks to foster among veterans groups, civic groups and patriotic citizens.

There will be a number of names mentioned here today. Many of those who contributed to this effort neither asked for, nor sought recognition. Like the thousands who rest here, their service as members of the various veterans groups has been silent and rock solid. It is often said that it is amazing what can be done when no one cares who gets the credit. This project is another such example. Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines all know that. Only a few get to wear eagles or stars or multiple chevrons of rank and authority. Most serve in the ranks with the quiet dignity of anonymity. It is them that we want to thank today. We want to thank the thousands who gave to the AMVETS fund raising. We want to thank the construction team whose work and materiel was donated. We want to thank the hundreds who have contributed quietly to this ceremony – and we want to thank you all for coming here today.

Chapter 808 Military Order of the Purple Heart

Serving Flagler and St Johns County

The mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among Combat Wounded Veterans, promote patriotism, support necessary legislative initiatives, and most importantly, provide service to all veterans. Chapter 808 was the first chapter in the Department of Florida MOPH to be commanded by a Global War on Terror recipient of the Purple Heart Medal.



The MOPH is about realizing how difficult life is after the loss of a loved one, after the injury of a loved one, or being that warrior that not only gave his/her time, but their blood in defense of the country we love. We are about honoring the warrior not war.

The MOPH is an outreach of men, women and families that understand exactly where you are, or where you've been, and where you're going, because we have been there.

The various programs and operations that Chapter 808 MOPH has participated in and/or worked with include, but are not limited to: Flagler Palm Coast and Matanzas High Schools JROTC Program, Teens in Flight, Emery Bennett and Clyde Lassen Veterans Nursing Homes, Jacksonville National Cemetery, Veterans in distress, Gratitude America, Wreaths Across America, Anastasia Veterans Park, Chase-Rescorla Memorial Scholarship, Purple Heart Hall of Honor, Heroes Park Purple Heart Monument Program, Purple Heart Medal replacements and recognition, etc.

Chapter 808 meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1800 hours at the VFW Post 8696, 47 Old Kings Road, Palm Coast, FL. Our website can be located at: www.moph808.org. For information you may contact Steve Lunsford in Palm Coast at 386-986-9516, or Tom Crawford in St. Augustine at 904-540-8587.

Please join us we need your help.

WWII veteran receives French Medal of Honor

This article is reprinted with the permission of its author, Laura Hampton, and the St. Augustine Record

CONTRIBUTED Pictured is Joe Keenan of the Greater Daytona Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association being awarded the Legion of Honor Medal by Philippe Letrilliart, the Consul General of France. Joe and his wife Grace live in St. Augustine, FL. Joe served with the 82nd Airborne Division and parachuted into Normandy France on 6 June 1944 as part of the spearhead that ultimately toppled the Nazi occupation of Europe. The Legion of Honor is France's highest distinction for non citizens of France and it recognizes exceptional service to France. Veterans of WWII who fought against the Nazis on French soil are being



awarded the Legion of Honor for their sacrifices and their distinguished military contribution to France's freedom.

By LAURA HAMPTON, laura.hampton@staugustine.com



World War II veteran and longtime St. Augustine resident Joseph Keenan received France's Legion of Honor Medal in a special ceremony held by the Greater Daytona Chapter of the 82nd Airborne on March 14.

The Consul General of France, Philippe Letrilliart, presented the award, which is France's highest distinction for non-citizens.

The award is given to recognize exceptional service to France.

"I wonder why I got it because I wasn't the only one there," Keenan said. "As far as I can remember, I didn't do anything that nobody else did."

Keenan's wife, Grace, said that is not exactly true. As a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division in World War II, Keenan parachuted into Sicily, Italy and Holland in addition to the combat jump into Normandy on June 6, 1944.

"He made all four combat jumps in Europe, so he must have been good," Grace said. "I'm so proud of him."

Realizing the window of opportunity to recognize World War II veterans was closing, France began awarding the Medal of Honor about 10 years ago.

The medal is given to those who fought against the Nazis on French soil for their sacrifices and distinguished military contribution to France's freedom.

Keenan, who will celebrate his 91st birthday Thursday, was one of 22 servicemen who received the award at the March ceremony, which was held in Holly Hill.



Surprised by and humble about the recognition from France, Keenan said the GIs who fought in World War II had only one goal in mind — to stay alive.

“I did my best to keep the guy on the right of me alive and the guy on the left of me alive,” Keenan said. “And those guys kept me alive.”



Joe Keenan seen right of center, without helmet, listening to Gen. Eisenhower's instructions



MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT – FL

MIAP- UPDATE, MARCH 25, 2014 MIAP's 2nd Call to Honor will be this coming Friday, March 28, 2014 at the Jacksonville National Cemetery at 1:30pm. We will be interring 6



Kathy Church

WWI, 6 WWII, 1 Korean War, 2 Vietnam veterans, 4 WWI spouses and 1 infant son of a Vietnam veteran. The address for the JNC is 4083 Lannie Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32218. This service is open to the public so that all may honor these “forgotten heroes” whose cremated remains have set on funeral home shelves unclaimed for decades.

Pallbearers and Flag carriers need to be at the cemetery by noon to meet the hearse. Motorcyclist or anyone wanting to take part in the escort of the hearse led by JSO need to be at the Town & Country Funeral Home located at 7242 Normandy Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32205 by 10:30. KSU will be at 11:15 with a brief safety before leaving review. We ask that you please follow the JSO lead in this escort for the safety of all.

MIAP is still in need of volunteers who are willing to work with funeral homes in Florida to locate and identify the unclaimed cremains of veterans, spouses and dependents of veterans. You can go to www.miap.us to read what MIAP is doing nationwide. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Our goal is to contact and work with every funeral home in the State of FL to complete our project.

“YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN”

Kathy Church

MIAP – FL State Coordinator

www.miapjax@yahoo.com

(904)219-3035

www.miap.us

CFC – Combined Federal Campaign # 76243



This is an excellent opportunity for veterans groups to hand out material, meet potential members and volunteers.

JOIN US at the upcoming Volunteer Expo where you'll have a chance to learn about **non-profit organizations** working to make a difference in St. Johns County. Learn more about the community challenges they are working to solve. Get connected to **volunteer opportunities** at the upcoming Expo...where you'll have the opportunity to learn about local needs and potentially **sign up as a volunteer** and become part of the solution!

The Expo is a **festive outdoor fair** featuring **exhibitor booths** with information on each participating non-profit organizations, **food & refreshments, music** and even **special prize drawings** for attendees!

About the EXPO:

Date: Saturday April 12, 2014

**Location: St. Augustine Beach Pier Park
350 A1A Beach Blvd.**

St. Augustine Beach 32080

Cost: Admission is free

CONTACT: *Any organization which wishes to exhibit at Volunteer St Johns should go to the website at: www.volunteerstjohns.com*

At the top of the home page is a button entitled: "Exhibitor Registration"

Clicking on that link will take you to the page which explains everything and includes an on-line form to sign up as an exhibitor.

A registration fee of \$20.00 per organization will be charged to reserve a 10x10 booth space at the Expo, which includes a 6 ft. table and 2 chairs.

FREEDOM LIVES CEREMONY AND DEDICATION

1 March 2014 by Ray Quinn, SGM FLANG, ret

On Saturday morning after the new carillon announced the ten o'clock hour, a Freedom Lives Ceremony and Dedication began.

A large crowd of patriots were on hand for the dedication of the bell tower concluding a three year long effort.



The AMVETS national organization along with AMVETS Post 2007 from Hilliard, Florida spearheaded a drive for funds to make the dream possible. Along the way other organizations stepped up to ensure success. One of those was the Rotary Club of North Jacksonville. They supplied business acumen, in kind services and a great fund raising effort. The Jacksonville National Cemetery Support Committee was on board from the beginning raising funds and supplying expertise.

It all seemed to come together on a brisk Saturday morning. The crowd was welcomed by the Director of Jacksonville National, Mr. Clifford Shields. Also providing a welcome was COL (Ret) Howard McGillin, Chairman of the Support Committee.

A grand opening was conducted with posting of the colors by a joint force color guard comprised of Army National Guard and U.S. Navy personnel. Miss Faith Miller performed the National Anthem and Mr. Patrick Mulvihill lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain (LTC, Ret) John Hugus provided the invocation as well as the benediction.

Congressman Ander Crenshaw was on hand to congratulate all those that had contributed in any way to the successful effort.

We heard from National Commander, AMVETS, John H. Mitchell Jr. who invited all to observe the unveiling of the AMVETS plaque at the base of the tower.

Mr. Shields provided a demonstration of the capabilities of the tower to an awe inspired crowd. The tower is capable of playing more than 2,000 pieces of music, providing three volleys and playing TAPS.

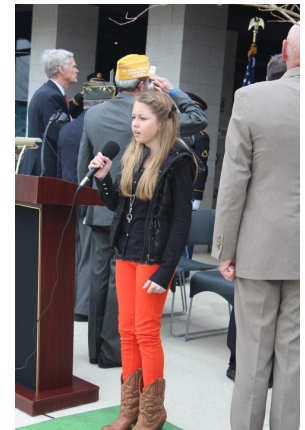
A lasting, living tribute now stands at Jacksonville National Cemetery. The bells will toll to both remind us of our freedom and honor those that sacrificed for it.



Carillon Bell Tower



Ray Quinn, MC, SGM, USA, ret



Miss Faith Miller



Chaplain John Hugus



JNC Director
Clifford Shields



JNC SC Chairman,
Howard McGillum,
COL US Army, ret.



US Representative
Ander Crenshaw



NTL Commander AMVETS
John Mitchell



Matthew Garman, Past
President, Rotary Club of
N. Jacksonville



Jackie Smith and JNC SC Chairman
Emeritus Dan Hughes

Downtown Jacksonville Vietnam Monument Finds a New Home

After talks with City councilmen and other Veteran organizations, the Vietnam War Monument has found a new home. On Friday, March 28, 2014 at 4 PM, the monument will be rededicated at the corner of A Phillip Randolph and Adams outside the Jacksonville Veterans



Memorial Arena. The site was selected with the cooperation from Military Affairs office, VVA 1046 and Semper Fi Society. The city will fund the building of the platform around the proposed site. A Vietnam Veteran will donate his time to move the monument from the existing site to the new site.

This has been an ongoing project since August 2013. During the Vietnam Veterans Convention held in Jacksonville, the area around the monument was found to be in a not so clean or maintained condition. The local chapter of the VVA cleaned and made the site presentable for a wreath laying ceremony during the Convention. The old site was not being maintained and needed to be moved so it could be properly maintained but also in an area where the community could view it. The new site was picked as the traffic from the Arena And Baseball grounds can view it and also in a dignified area next to the Veterans Memorial Arena.

The original monument was given to the City in May 1974 as a way of remembering the Duval County soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who gave their service to their country.

UH RAH, Semper Fi, Fair Winds and Wild Blue Yonder.

Welcome Home, Brothers and Sisters



Greater Jacksonville Area USO

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL TROOPS AND FAMILIES?

DID YOU KNOW THAT GREATER JAX AREA USO IS AN "INDEPENDENT CHARTERED USO AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION, OPERATING THIRTY LOCAL USO CENTERS SERVING OVER 250,000 MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES. GREATER JAX AREA USO RELIES TOTALLY UPON DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORT AND DOES NOT SOLICIT FOR DONATIONS VIA LOCAL NEWSPAPER, NEWS OR U.S. MAIL. DONATIONS COLLECTED IN THAT MANNER DO NOT COME BACK TO JACKSONVILLE TO HELP US SUPPORT OUR CENTERS OR PROGRAMS. PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO VISIT WWW.JAXUSO.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Like Us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/JaxUSO



By The Associated Press

A look at the 24 Army veterans receiving the Medal of Honor from President Barack Obama on Tuesday. Most are of Hispanic or Jewish heritage. Eight fought in the Vietnam War, nine in the Korean War and seven in World War II. Only three are still living.

The living recipients are:



—Melvin Morris of Cocoa, Fla., born in Okmulgee, Okla., commended for courageous actions while a staff sergeant during combat operations in the vicinity of Chi Lang, South Vietnam, on Sept. 17, 1969.

—Spc. 4 Santiago J. Erevia of San Antonio, born in Nordheim, Texas, cited for courage during a search and clear mission near Tam Ky, South Vietnam, on May 21, 1969.



—Sgt. 1st Class Jose Rodela of San Antonio, born in Corpus Christi, Texas, cited for courage during combat operations in Phuoc Long province, South Vietnam, on Sept. 1, 1969.

The posthumous recipients are:

—Sgt. Candelario Garcia, born in Corsicana, Texas, for courageous actions during combat operations in Lai Khe, South Vietnam, on Dec. 8, 1968.

—Spc. 4 Leonard L. Alvarado, born in Bakersfield, Calif., died during combat operations in Phuoc Long province, South Vietnam, on Aug. 12, 1969.

—Staff Sgt. Felix M. Conde-Falcon, born in Juncos, Puerto Rico, killed during combat operations in Ap Tan Hoa, South Vietnam, on April 4, 1969.

—Spc. 4 Ardie R. Copas of Fort Pierce, Fla. killed during combat operations near Ph Romeas Hek, Cambodia, on May 12, 1970.

—Spc. 4 Jesus S. Duran of San Bernardino, Calif., for courageous actions during combat operations in South Vietnam on April 10, 1969.

—Cpl. Joe R. Baldonado, born in Colorado, killed during combat operations in Kangdong, North Korea, on Nov. 25, 1950.

—Cpl. Victor H. Espinoza of El Paso, Texas, for courageous actions during

combat operations in Chorwon, North Korea, on Aug. 1, 1952.

—Sgt. Eduardo C. Gomez, born in Los Angeles, for courageous actions during combat operations in Tabu-dong, South Korea, on Sept. 3, 1950.

—Pfc. Leonard M. Kravitz, born in New York City, killed during combat operations in Yangpyong, South Korea, on March 6-7, 1951.

—Master Sgt. Juan E. Negron of Bayamon, Puerto Rico, for courageous actions during combat operations in Kalma-Eri, North Korea, on April 28, 1951.

—Master Sgt. Mike C. Pena, born in Newgulf, Texas, killed in action during combat operations in Waegwan, South Korea, on Sept. 4, 1950.

—Pvt. Demensio Rivera, born in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, for courageous actions during combat operations in Changyong-ni, South Korea, on May 23, 1951.

—Pvt. Miguel A. Vera, born in Puerto Rico, killed during combat operations in Chorwon, North Korea, on Sept. 21, 1952.

—Sgt. Jack Weinstein of Saint Francis, Kan. for courageous actions during combat operations in Kumsong, South Korea, on Oct. 19, 1951.

—Pvt. Pedro Cano, born in La Morita, Mexico, for courageous actions during combat operations in Schevenhutte, Germany, on Dec. 3, 1944.

—Pvt. Joe Gandara, born in Santa Monica, Calif., for courageous actions during combat operations in Amfreville, France, on June 9, 1944.

—Pfc. Salvador J. Lara, of Riverside, Calif., for courageous actions during combat operations in Aprilia, Italy, May 27-28, 1944.

—Sgt. William F. Leonard, of Lockport, N.Y., for courageous actions during combat operations near St. Die, France, on Nov. 7, 1944.

—Staff Sgt. Manuel V. Mendoza, born in Miami, Ariz., for courageous actions during combat operations on Mount Battaglia, Italy, on Oct. 4, 1944.

—Sgt. Alfred B. Nietzel, born in New York City, for courageous actions during combat operations in Heistern, Germany, on Nov. 18, 1944.

—1st Lt. Donald K. Schwab, born Hooper, Neb., for courageous actions during combat operations near Lure, France, on Sept. 17, 1944.

Source:

The U.S. Army

<http://www.army.mil/medalofhonor/valor24/index.html>



March was Woman Veterans History Month

Remarkable Women Veterans in American History

reprinted from the Veterans Health Administration, written by Hans Petersen,
VA Staff Writer

VA celebrates Women's History Month with a look at some fascinating women Veterans and their remarkable achievements.

Sarah Emma Edmonds joined the United States Army to "fight for her country" in the Civil War. She disguised her sex and used the name Frank Thompson. A nurse in the Second Volunteers of the United States Army, she was unique because she was able to remain in the army for several years and was successful as a Union spy, while impersonating a man - See more at: <http://www.va.gov/health/NewsFeatures/2014/March/Remarkable-Women-Veterans-in-American-History.asp#sthash.HAIWkdPc.5YXZ89UN.dpuf>



Cathay Williams, born in Independence Mo., was the first African American female to enlist, serving in the United States Army as William Cathay. She was a Buffalo Soldier, passing herself off as a man. She survived smallpox and several other illnesses. She was one of the first women to enlist in the Army and was the first African American woman to do so.

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker volunteered for the Union Army as a civilian nurse, as the Army had no female surgeons. She was finally awarded a commission as a "Contract Acting Assistant Surgeon," becoming the first-ever female U.S. Army surgeon. She often crossed battle lines to treat the injured civilians and was captured by Confederate troops and arrested as a spy. She was released and went on to supervise orphanages, become a writer and lecturer, advocating for women's rights. Walker is the only woman to receive the Medal of Honor. - See more at: <http://www.va.gov/health/NewsFeatures/2014/March/Remarkable-Women-Veterans-in-American-History.asp#sthash.HAIWkdPc.5YXZ89UN.dpuf>



Irene Kinne Englund was born in El Paso, Texas. She piloted military aircraft during World War II as a member of the Women Air Force Service Pilots. She transported medical patients, ferried military aircraft and towed aerial gunnery targets. Because she was such a skilled pilot, she was one of the few women to be awarded Veteran status by the military.

Eileen Collins grew up reading about famous pilots such as Amelia Earhart and other women pilots who inspired her to earn a pilot's license. During Operation Grenada in 1983, she flew evacuated medical students and their families out of Grenada. In 1998, Eileen Collins became the first Woman Space Shuttle Commander. She is an inspiration to many young women who are also reaching for the stars. - See more at: <http://www.va.gov/health/NewsFeatures/2014/March/Remarkable-Women-Veterans-in-American-History.asp#sthash.HAIWkdPc.5YXZ89UN.dpuf>





A reminder that nominations are now being accepted for induction to the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame. Nominations are accepted from January 20, 2014 to April 30, 2014.



Ray Quinn, SGM, (USA, Ret)

The State of Florida established the FVHOF in 2013 to recognize and honor the works and lives of veterans during or after their military service and have made significant contributions to the State of Florida.

The selection process will be conducted using a uniform nomination form found on the website.

All the information you need as far as qualification and the nomination process is found on the website. You are encouraged to start soon on your nominee's nomination.

Please visit: <http://www.floridaveteranshalloffame.org/>

Thanks for caring for our veterans.

Respectfully,

Ray

RAY A. QUINN

SGM, (USA, Ret)



American Legion Post 37, information provided by Adjutant Kevin McKeefery

ST. AUGUSTINE -- American Legion Post 37 was recently recognized for the proper and patriotic display of the United States Flag.



Mr. Richard White, Commander of Post 37 was presented the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution's (NSSAR) Flag Certificate on February 28 at the Post 37 location at 1 Anderson Circle. The presentation was made by Jerry Hanchett, President of the St. Augustine Chapter of the sons of the American Revolution and James Smith, Chapter's Flag Committee Chairman. The American Legion Post displays the U.S, POW/MIA, and State flags at the Post home.

The NSSAR's Flag Certificate is presented to individuals, businesses, schools, government agencies and other entities that display the U.S. flag in the proper manner and for patriotic purposes. Those wishing to make a nomination to receive the Certificate should contact James Smith at vail55@bellsouth.net or call 904-797-9746 . Please include the name of the person or organization being nominated, their address and contact information to include a phone number and/or an email address.

The Sons of the American Revolution is the leading male lineage society that perpetuates the ideals of the war for independence. As a historical, educational, and patriotic, non-profit corporation organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, we seek to maintain and expand the meaning of patriotism, respect for our national symbols, the value of American citizenship, and the unifying force of "e pluribus unum" that was created from the people of many nations -- one nation and one people.

The St. Augustine Chapter meets at 11:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month September through May at the Le Pavillon in St. Augustine. Visitors and prospective members are welcome. Individuals interested in membership should contact the Chapter President, Jerry Hanchett, at: jerry.hanchett@gmail.com or call 904-829-5268.

Jerome (Jerry) Domask

I arrived in Vietnam Dec. 1967 as an Army Captain just prior to the TET Offensive in Jan 1968 as an adviser under MACV HQ. Duty was in Cholon, Chinese Section of Saigon. Spent 3 months in Vietnamese language school (Ft. Bliss, TX) prior to assignment. Advisers in this area were not issued weapons of any type, no rifles, no side arms! We were dependent upon Vietnamese for transportation. When the TET Offensive kicked off the Vietnamese Army drives were not seen again, fleeing to help their families. We obtained weapons and secured transportation off the economy and from enemy supplies captured by our Vietnamese counter-parts. We were quartered in an old French hotel without any American security or support. Much of the time we lived off the economy. Several weeks after the start of the Tet Offensive approx. 85 - 90% of the area within a half mile of us was completely destroyed. Our hotel's mess hall on 3rd floor was destroyed by fire, etc., left Vietnam in Dec 68 as a 27 year old Army Major with usual Army service medals; to include Bronze Star Medal, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/Palm (Individual Award) and Vietnamese Ordnance Badge. My second child, Jim was born one month after my arrival in Vietnam, at which time I was a father of a newborn and a three old daughter, Lisa.



Entered active duty in May 1962. Prior training included Ordnance General Support Officer training, Special Warfare Staff Officer training at Ft. Bragg and 12 weeks of Vietnamese language.



Jerry Domask has been selected by the Vietnam Veterans of America, Jacksonville Chapter 1046, to design a Vietnam Memorial for the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Jerry's recent work has focused on his experiences during the Vietnam War. Jerry says reflecting back 45 years has been a difficult and painful process. The creation of 35 Vietnam War multi-media series opened the escape hatch to cry out: breaking down the barriers of anger and betrayal. I had returned to America that vilified veterans of the Vietnam War. The war series has released me to move on with renewed vigor and enthusiasm to create work freed from the pains of war.

The Memorial Vietnam Monument excitement keeps growing. Queens Harbour Yacht & Country Club (QH) community is embracing our Memorial efforts with a full court press. The community paper, Queens Harbour Living, published and distributed by the Times-Union is running a great article about our veteran community centered around the Memorial Monument. Each reaches approximately 1,000 resident homes.

This is being followed up during the entire month of May with the Memorial and some Vietnam Paintings being displayed at the QH Country Club. It will also take center stage at QH Annual Vendors Day celebration May 17 (Armed Forces Day). It is anticipated to have 100 vendors and over 750 people in attendance between 12:00 - 5:00 pm.

Contact info: jerrydomask@gmail.com

Jerry Domask Designs Vietnam Veterans Memorial for Jacksonville National Cemetery

In the Spring of 2014 a Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument will be dedicated at the Jacksonville National Cemetery in memory of all veterans who served during the Vietnam War, 1961-1975, whether or not “in country”. The monument’s designer is Jerome H. (Jerry) Domask, a retired Army officer, Vietnam Veteran, Queen’s Harbour resident and artist and sculptor. Bill Norris, also a Vietnam Veteran and Queen’s Harbour resident who has written a book about his Vietnam experiences, helped Jerry write a statement about the monument which is summarized as follows:

“The design is different, as was the war. The monument is a tribute to those who served during the Vietnam War. The overall design is characterized by abrupt changes and unpredictable planes, symbolizing the social and political turmoil of the times. The womb shaped front of the monument symbolizes a final resting place of respect, honor and gratitude. It pays tribute and honors all those who served from all branches of the United States military, some of whom never made it home. The back of the memorial is in recognition of the POW/MIA’s. The side panel is a listing of major battles and operations during the U.S. involvement in Vietnam.”

Bill Norris also wrote the following poem:

“You fought, for what you did not know;
You returned, but the parades forgot to show.
You survived, with recognition yet to come;
You lived, with memories of youth long gone.”

The 1950’s TV show “Naked City” started with the line “There are 8 million people in the city with 8 million stories.” There are many QH residents who served in the U.S. armed forces during the Vietnam War and each of them has a personal story or two about his or her experience. Most Vietnam Veterans don’t talk about their experience, in part because at the time they were not given the respect, recognition and honor that today is afforded those in service and there is some bitterness. Or perhaps it is because they have suppressed any discussion so long, there is no desire to bring it up now. Many Vietnam Veterans recount how they were spat upon when in uniform, called “baby-killers” and otherwise bore the brunt of the anti-war feelings rampant among certain factions of the U.S., particularly in the 1970’s. It was so bad that in some places there were standing orders not to wear fatigues or uniforms off base.

In writing this article I spoke with a few Vietnam Veterans residing in QH to pass on some of their stories and put this memorial monument in context, both then and now. For example, Harold Smith (MAJ/USA) served two tours in VN. In 1967-68 he flew a single engine Bird Dog reconnaissance plane and in 1970-71 he flew a transport helicopter. Among other places, Harold flew in and out of Soc Trang in the Mekong Delta. In 1968 Jimmy Bryant was an MP at Soc Trang patrolling the perimeter fence with a dog to provide security. Harold and Jimmy never met at Soc Trang, but today they play golf and drink together at QH as part of the Nine Hole Guys.

Bill Norris was a 19 year old “grunt” with the infantry in 1968 (year of the Tet) who earned battle field promotions from PFC to SSGT and acting 1st LT. Bill’s book, “Flying Into The Storm,” about his experi

ences will be published in March (check Amazon and PBook). Terry Chisholm (SSGT/USA) was in South Korea with the Army Security Agency; the day he was to depart as he was boarding he was bumped from his flight to allow a young serviceman to go home for his father's funeral. Terry had no official status at the base at that time and had to hang out and sleep in the NCO Club for two days until he could get a flight out. Judy Mantle (1stLT/USAF) offloaded badly wounded patients at Andrews AFB in transit to Walter Reed Hospital from Yokoda, Japan. On one occasion Judy faced down a Secret Service Agent who tried to stop the offloading process because Air Force One with Pres. Johnson had landed, challenging the agent to tell the President that he had stopped the offloading of badly wounded servicemen and women so the President would not be delayed arriving at the White House. And on and on.

Jerry was commissioned to design the Monument by the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1046. In 2012 Jerry had designed a commemorative coin for the Vietnam Veterans of America. The photographs with this article are of a model of the monument made by Jerry showing the various sides/faces. Chapter 1046 is raising the \$36,000 the monument will cost to be fabricated in black granite, with a black granite base. Attached is a copy of a fund raising brochure. QH residents who would like to donate can send a check payable to the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1046 or use a debit or credit card as described in the brochure.

Jerry studied painting and sculpture at the Univ. of Wisconsin in the late 1950's and early 1960's, graduating with a BS in Fine Arts in 1962. Jerry was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the US Army through ROTC and entered active duty in 1962. He served 20 years and retired in 1982 as a LTC (on the promotion list for full Colonel). Jerry and his wife of 50 years, Mary, moved to Queen's Harbour in 2001. But it was not until 2009 that Jerry started attending classes at UNF to kick-start his painting and sculpting. Once Jerry started painting about the Vietnam War, it prompted a torrent of work as a therapeutic release from many of Jerry's feelings about the Vietnam War. In 2012 UNF had a show featuring Jerry's Vietnam War paintings and collages; some of his Vietnam War works are now included in the permanent collection of the National Veterans Art Museum in Chicago. An article about Jerry and his Vietnam War paintings and collages appeared in QH Living Magazine in 2012. Jerry has a website, www.jeromedomaskfineart.com, where you can view an array of Jerry's paintings, both about the Vietnam War and portraits, etc. not related to the Vietnam War.

The Jacksonville National Cemetery was dedicated on Sept. 21, 2008. To date over 6,500 internments have taken place. Over 1,500 burials are occurring each year, with a majority of them Vietnam War Veterans.



Contact info:
jerrydomask@gmail.com



Submitted by COL George Whitmer, ret.: **A Journey Back to Vietnam, the Battle of Dai Do**

http://www.moaa.org/main_article.aspx?id=13857&hrl=WUCAQLPH&mc=01803467

**From Tracey Burke, if interested , please contact
Tracey by March 31st. Phone 904-321-9497 or
email: tracet949@gmail.com**

I would like to offer it to **VETERANS** who need assistance for
classes in any of the following areas:

landscaping or fertilizer classes;

students of horticulture;

farming;

conservation;

or any study that would align with the Garden Clubs' mission.

The recipient(s) **MUST BE FROM** St. Johns County, they **DO
NOT HAVE TO RESIDE** in St. Johns County.

If they are going to school anywhere, it is ok, but they **MUST** be
from here!

Thank you so much.

Tracey Burke

The Locals' Guide to Saint Augustine

"Know What the Locals Know"

Tracey Burke

904-321-9497

info@localsguidesa.com

www.localsguidesa.com

VETERAN HOSPITAL FLAGS

I WANT THE FLAGS IN ALL HOSPITALS NATION-
WIDE



It is my goal, to put the Flag of the Veteran's Branch of Service, on their hospital door, to indicate that a **United States Military Veteran** is in that particular hospital room.

Talk to the hospital in your area about putting Veteran Flags on their hospital doors.

NOW

Join the Crusade !!

NOW



A. J. Sartin - Veterans Island, FL

Vietnam Veteran

Please - make sure the Veteran is RECOGNIZED...

Put a Service Flag on their door !

www.VeteranHospitalFlags.com



TOGETHER we can help/do **MORE**
If you can't stand behind our military
feel free to stand in front of them.
If you like to unsubscribe to our emails,
the button is at the bottom to do so.

VOLUNTEERS/SPONSORS Contact: kim@avetproject.org
or you can

Visit our website HERE

APRIL 4, & 5 MARK YOUR CALENDARS

www.avetproject.org
SUPPORT OUR TROOPS



MELBOURNE **regional**
CHAMBER of East
Central Florida

PLEASE JOIN

AVET PROJECT's
RIBBON CUTTING

When:

Friday April 4th
4-6pm



Where: Near PAFB/Pineada Cswy
American Legion Post #200
200 Ocean Blvd
Satellite Beach, FL 32937



MEET & GREET

Special Guest

POW/MIA Survivor
Pearl Harbor Survivor
Commanders
And MORE

FREE
BBQ

Special announcement



FREE American Legion Membership
to Active Duty & Reserves



"Welcome Home" is a new series being produced by Sleeping Dog Productions, Inc. It tells the story of Viet Nam Veterans, from all branches of the service. It is scheduled for release in 2015, the 40th anniversary year of the end of the War. It is a thank you -- and a welcome home that is long, long, overdue.

Welcome Home Trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-CTKFzWjjw&sns=em>

For updates on the series visit their website,:

www.sleepingdogtv.com; info@sleepingdogtv.com



For several years, D.A.V. Fl Chapter 6 has furnished the passenger vans for the delivery of Veterans between the St. Augustine Clinic and the Gainesville, V.A. Hospital, and back, Monday – Friday. The Van departs the Clinic every weekday at 0600. Phone (904) 209-3710 to schedule a ride.

Drivers furnished by the COA are:

Monday – Lonnie Woodard

Tuesday – Jack LaLonde

Wednesday – Floyd Bubba

Thursday – Bob Garlander

Friday – Robert “Butch” Harrison

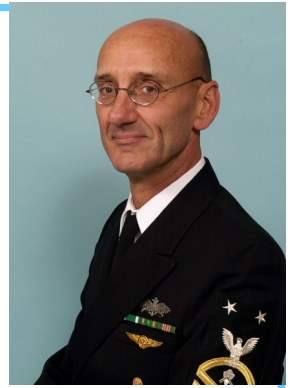


Featured Veteran of the Month:

BIOGRAPHY

CUCM (SCW/NAC) GENE R. TOFFOLO

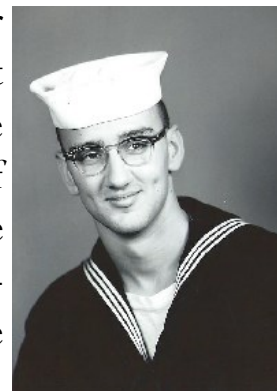
UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE RETIRED



Master Chief Constructman Gene R. Toffolo, a native of Indiana enlisted in the United States Navy after graduation from High School in Indianapolis on June 29, 1964. Entering the aviation field and graduating from boot camp in Great Lakes IL, his first duty station was NAAS Saufley Field, Pensacola, FL. Master Chief Toffolo then proceeded to Millington, TN to start schooling as an Antisubmarine Warfare Technician. After attending Aircraft Fundamental "A" School, Aviation Electronics "A" School in Millington and Aircrew School and Antisubmarine Warfare Technician aircrew school for P3A type aircraft in Norfolk, VA, he was assigned to Patrol Squadron Forty-Four (VP-44) in Patuxent River, MD qualifying as a Sonar, Radar, and Radioman Operator logging over 2,000 flight hours and seeing many parts of the world in the P3A aircraft. Station in various countries including: Iceland, Denmark, Norway, Azores, Spain, Italy, Guam, Hawaii, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Trinidad and Barbados. He earned his Naval Aircrew Wings in August of 1967. He left active duty after almost five years of service as an Antisubmarine Warfare Technician Second Class Petty Officer, (AX2) in May 1969.

Master Chief Toffolo entered the United States Naval Reserves under the APG program as a Builder Second Class in March 1981 and was assigned to Reserve Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (RNMCB-26), Detachment 0326 where he spent his first nine years in the Reserve Naval Construction Force (Seabees). He made Chief Petty Officer in September 1988 and served a two-year tour as Chief Petty Officer in Charge of Det 0326. Volunteering for Operation Desert Shield/Storm, he deployed with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Twenty-Three (NMCB-23), Main Body to Camp Covington, Guam as Charlie Company Chief. He then returned for another tour as Chief Petty Officer in Charge Detachment 0326. Master Chief Toffolo moved on to the Operations department with; 8th Naval Construction Regiment (NCR) (one year), 7th NCR (two years), 2nd Naval Construction Brigade (NCB) (six months); and as Maintenance Supervisor with Naval Inshore Undersea Warfare Group TWO (one year). He served a two-year tour as Command Master Chief with NMCB-26 in Detroit, MI. One highlight of his Reserve career includes being frocked as a Master Chief while attending and graduating from the Senior Enlisted Academy, Newport RI,

in May of 1996, Class 71, Blue Group. He completed his three year tour on staff with the Naval Reserve Professional Development Center in New Orleans as a Facilitator/Senior Instructor for the new Senior Enlisted Academy Non Resident course. Master Chief Toffolo retired from the Naval service on 01 November 2003. He was honored by the USS Indianapolis (CA-35) Survivors Organization in 1997 by being named an Honorary Survivor for his service to the Survivors since 1985.



His personal decorations include the Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal with three Gold Stars, Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal with three Gold Stars, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy "E", Navy Good Conduct Medal, Naval Reserve Meritorious Medal with Silver Star, National Defense Service Medal with two Bronze Star, Humanitarian Service Medal, Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal with one Bronze Star, Sea Service Deployment, Naval Reserve Sea Service, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, with Silver Hour Glass and "M" device, Navy Rifle Marksmanship, Navy Pistol Expert. He also has been awarded the Seabee Combat Warfare Designator.



In civilian life, he was a Journeyman in the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen as a Tile, Terrazzo, and Marble Setter with over 39 years at Santarossa Mosaic and Tile Company, Inc, Indianapolis, IN, retiring in January 2009. He has over 125 college credits with two Associate Degrees: General Studies from Indiana University and Supervision from Purdue University. Master Chief and his wife, Janet, have been married over 42 years and retired to Lake Park, Georgia on July 1, 2009. Their son Jason works for Hella Corporate Center USA in Plymouth, MI, and resides with their daughter-in-law Tricia (both graduates of Purdue University) and grandsons Joseph Raymond, Jack Andrew, Matthew Alexander in Lake Orion, MI. Since retiring to Lake Park he is actively involved in a number of volunteer programs and his priority being Navy Funeral Honors. He completed over 225 funerals since arriving in southern Georgia. He is also involved with the VP-44 Reunion Committee, Lake Park Area Historical Society, Friends of the Library Bookstore, Valdosta Veterans First, House of Heroes board member and volunteer, and honoring Veterans in the Lake Park cemetery.



Florida Fallen Heroes Banquet

May 3, 2014

5:00 – 9:00 PM

Jacksonville Fire Fighters Hall
618 Stockton St., Jacksonville, FL

Price: \$20.00 Single

\$30.00 Couple

\$150.00 Table

Guest Speakers: Rae Pike, Director Florida Military
Family and Community Covenant

&

Cathy Heigher of Homes for Heroes

Music Performed By: Frank Temple & Rod Salvador

Our Mission

The purpose and mission of this foundation is to create, establish, and help maintain the Fallen Soldier Monument at each hometown high school of a Florida graduates who have lost their lives defending the United States of America in our war against terrorism.

The Timothy J. Seamans Memorial Foundation, (Doing Business as Florida Fallen Heroes) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit exempt organization, registered (# CH34311) with the Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Contributions are deductible from federal income as charitable donations under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. Bequests, devises, transfers and gifts made in accordance with section 2066, 2108 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code are also tax deductible.

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Contact:

Dave Seamans

904-535-0747

seascoutda@comcast.net

Make Check or Money Order

Payable to:

Florida Fallen Heroes

P.O. BOX 11293

Jacksonville, FL 32239-1293



**FLORIDA FALLEN
HEROES**.ORG

The Timothy J. Seamans Memorial Foundation



PRESENTS THE FALLEN HEROES GOLF CLASSIC

Friday May 9th, 2014 8:30am T-Off

Eagle Landing Golf and Country Club

at OakLeaf Plantation

3989 Eagle Landing Pkwy, Orange Park, FL 32065

Please help support this great organization that is determined not to forget those that have given the ultimate sacrifice for our Freedom.

~ **Individual Golfer** (\$75.00)
(\$65.00 Military)

*Includes golf, lunch & prizes

~ **Hole Sponsor** (\$100.00)

*Includes a sign

~ **Tournament Sponsor** (\$500.00)

*Includes Banner and name on the monument

If you would like to donate monies and are unable to play please visit Compass Bank/Florida Fallen Heroes.

Schedule of Events

7:30 am Check-in opens

8:15 am All players must be checked in

8:30 am T-Off

1:00 pm Lunch /prizes

Contact Information

Company: _____

Address: _____

Golfer 1: _____

email: _____ phone# _____

Golfer 2: _____

email: _____ phone# _____

Golfer 3: _____

email: _____ phone# _____

Golfer 4: _____

email: _____ phone# _____

To register please send this form either by email: FLFallenGolf2@yahoo.com or fax to (904)328-3751. Provide the name, email and phone number of each player.

Please make checks payable to:

Florida Fallen Heroes

P.O. BOX 11293

Jacksonville, FL 32239-1293

For Information please contact:

www.floridafallenheroes.org

Dave Seamans 904-535-0747

send registration form to email: FLFallenGolf2@yahoo.com or fax 904-328-3751

The Timothy J. Seamans Memorial Foundation is based in the beautiful city of Jacksonville, Florida and was founded by the family of Jacksonville fallen soldier, Timothy J. Seamans, in August 2005. The purpose and mission of this foundation is to create, establish, and help maintain the Fallen Soldier Monument at each hometown high school of a Florida graduate who has lost their lives defending the United States of America in our war against terrorism. The Timothy J. Seamans Memorial Foundation, (Doing Business as Florida Fallen Heroes) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit exempt organization, registered (#CH34311) with the Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Contributions are deductible from federal income as charitable donations under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. Bequests, devises, transfers and gifts made in accordance with section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code are also tax deductible.

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**Voted #1 in the United States
in Customer Reviews**



2013 Ford Dealer of the Year
2013 Lincoln Dealer of the Year



Veterans History Project Posts New Field Kit and Companion Video to Website

The Veterans History Project (VHP) recently published a revised how-to field kit and produced an updated version of its companion video, both of which are now available for download on the Project's website, www.loc.gov/vets. Volunteers and veterans alike are invited to visit the site to access the field kit and companion video and to share links to them via social media networks.

The revised field kit includes new content such as an explanation of the 30-20-10 Rule—an easy way to remember VHP's minimum requirements; a blank cover letter for donors' convenience; a Do's and Don'ts page for quick reference; a combined manuscript data sheet for veterans submitting memoirs, letters, diaries or other written materials; an updated list of acceptable audio and video formats; and a list of resources for veterans in need of non-VHP assistance.

The updated companion video, approximately 15-minutes in length, walks participants through VHP's easy-to-follow process and provides an inside look into what happens to collections once they reach the Library of Congress. The video features VHP's Director Bob Patrick and documentary filmmaker Ken Burns, both of whom provide useful tips and helpful reminders.

In addition to the new content, participants will note that instructions for registering collections prior to submission have been removed from the field kit and companion video, as that process is no longer required.

The Mission of the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress American Folklife Center is to collect, preserve and make accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. Learn more at www.loc.gov/vets. Share your exciting VHP initiatives, programs, events, and news stories with VHP to be considered for a future RSS. Email vohp@loc.gov and place "My VHP RSS Story" in the subject line.



**20TH ANNUAL FIRST MILITIA CHAPTER
AUSA GOLF TOURNAMENT
APRIL 14TH 2014**



Time: 7:30 AM Registration 8:30 AM Shotgun Start

Location: The Golf Club at South Hampton (CR-210)

Format: 4 Person Captain's Choice

Field: First 36 Teams



Entry Fee: \$70.00 (Includes Green Fees, Cart, Luncheon & Prizes)

Prizes For: 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Place

Hole Prizes Include: Longest Drive, Closest to Pin and Longest Putt
Chipping & Putting Contests (During the Tournament)



Golf Shoes Must Be Soft Spikes Only

The Luncheon & Awards Ceremony will be held on-site after the Tournament

TEAM CAPTAIN: _____ PHONE #: _____ EMAIL: _____
PLAYER #2: _____ PHONE #: _____ EMAIL: _____
PLAYER #3: _____ PHONE #: _____ EMAIL: _____
PLAYER #4: _____ PHONE #: _____ EMAIL: _____

MAIL ENTRY FORMS & FEES TO:

MRS. REBECCA GIBSON, C/O AUSA GOLF TOURNAMENT,
P.O BOX 3883, ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32085-3883.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO FIRST MILITIA CHAPTER - AUSA

AUSA is an exempt organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the US Internal Revenue Code.

Veterans and Friends of Veterans,

More than 40 years ago, hundreds of thousands of Vietnam Veterans returned home to a country they could no longer recognize. They were the first veterans of the United States of America to come home without a hero's welcome.

Over 58,000 young Americans gave their lives in that war. Many more came home with physical and mental health issues. Many of them continue to suffer as a result of their service.

The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1046 wants to honor all veterans of the Vietnam War. We have committed to build a Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

The cost of erecting the monument will be \$40,000.

I am writing to ask for your assistance. We, the citizens of Northeast Florida, need to make this happen. It is not only a way of saying "thank you" to those who served and sacrificed, but a way to permanently remember all those that served in the Vietnam War with this monument at the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

It is our way of telling the families of those veterans that have passed, that we remember and that "We will never forget."

Please help us remember all Vietnam War Veterans by making a generous donation today to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument fund. Please fill out the flap on the attached brochure and enclose it with your donation.

Mail your checks to: Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1046, P.O. Box 331322, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-1322

You can also make your donation online by going to our website at www.vva1046.com/monument. All donations are tax deductible. We appreciate support. We would also be grateful you would take the time to forward this to email, with your endorsement and recommendation, to your email list. Thank you for your support, God Bless America.

Semper Fi, Anthony(Tony)D'Aleo

Nicholas J Cutinha Chapter 1046, President

Vietnam Veterans of America

In Service of America

www.VVA1046.com



Monument Design

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a sculpture designed by local Vietnam Veteran, artist and sculptor, Jerome Domask. The design is different, as was the war. The monument is a tribute to those who served during the Vietnam War. The overall design is characterized by abrupt changes and unpredictable planes, symbolizing the social and political turmoil of the times. The front of the monument pays tribute and honors all those who served from all branches of the United States Military. The back of the memorial is in recognition of the POW/MIAs, some who never made it home. The side panel is a listing of major battles and operations during the war.

Jacksonville National Cemetery

The Jacksonville National Cemetery was dedicated on September 21, 2008. To date, over 5,000 internments have taken place. Over 1,500 burials are now occurring each year. The majority of these are Vietnam Veterans.



**Be Generous –
Honor Our Vietnam Vets**



P.O. Box 331322
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-1322

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

JOIN US...

In building a permanent testament to the courage and sacrifice of all the men and women who served during the Vietnam War.

"We Will Never Forget"

ARTIST RENDERING

Be Generous – Honor Our Vietnam Vets

JOIN US



In erecting a permanent memorial to all the men and women that served their country during the Vietnam War.

The monument will be erected at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. It's unique design will stand as a testament to their memory and to their courage and sacrifice.

The design and specifications for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument has been submitted to the Jacksonville National Cemetery for approval. All specifications are in accordance with the Veterans Administration Cemetery Memorials requirements.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument is being funded entirely by private donations.

The goal is to raise \$36,000 to cover the cost of the monument and related costs.

Funds donated that exceed our goal will be used by VVA 1046 to support our Veterans Outreach Programs

HERE'S HOW TO HELP

DONATIONS

Donations of any size are gratefully appreciated. Even the smallest amount will help us erect this memorial to our Vietnam Veterans.

DONATE NOW > **Memorial Goal is \$36,000**

SPONSORS

Sponsors will be featured on our website, in all program brochures and will also receive a commemorative certificate of the monument.

PARTNERS

We are seeking patriotic men and women as well as businesses, community organizations and veterans organizations to come together to help to promote this project. Please feel free to contact us if you have ideas or means to help us with raising the funds for this monument. Car washes, garage sales, booths and tables at retail outlets are just some of the ways you could partner to help reach the goal. Contact Ray Breault, First Vice President, at 1vp@vva1046.com with any ideas or suggestions.

Honor Our Vietnam Vets



COUNT ME IN! I'D LIKE TO...

Make a Donation of

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$_____

Be a Sponsor

☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other \$_____

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Make Checks Payable to:
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1046

Please mail completed form and donation to:
**Vietnam Veterans of America
Nicholas J. Cutinha Chapter 1046
Monument Committee
P. O. Box 331322
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-1322**

Visit our Website at:
www.vva1046.com/monument for more information and photographs. Donations can also be made using debit or credit cards at the website.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1046 is a 501(c)(19) veterans organization. All donations are tax deductible under IRC 170(c)(3).

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE"



Event Information

- ♦ **DATE: May 5, 2014**
- ♦ **SIGN IN: 9:30 am**
- ♦ **TIME : 10 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
- ♦ **LOCATION :**
UNF Herbert University Center
12000 Alumni Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32224-2678
- ♦ **REGISTRATION:**
<http://www.unf.edu/military-veterans>
(click on Upcoming Events)
or call MVRC at 620-5131
- * **Registration end date is April 28th**
- ♦ **FREE LUNCH & PARKING**



FREE!!!

Entrepreneurship Training for Veterans

Have you always dreamed of owning
your own small business?

Don't know where to start?

Do you own your own business and
want to grow ?

Join us at the Hebert University Center
to participate in the Entrepreneur-
ship Training for Veterans.

You will have an opportunity to talk
with entrepreneurs and investors and
learn how they started.

Training sessions include—

- Developing an Idea
- Entrepreneurial Networking
and Government Contracting
- Financing
- Business Plan
- Plus many more topics

You have been thinking about it,
now it is time to take action—Sign
up today!

Free Lunch & Parking



Presented through the generosity of Robert E. Jacoby

UNF Military & Veterans Resource Center

1 UNF Drive, Bldg 57, suite 2700
(904) 620-5131 mvrco@unf.edu



Event Information

- ◆ Date: April 1, 2014
- ◆ Sign In: 9:30 am
- ◆ Time: 10:00—5:00 pm
- ◆ Location:
UNF Herbert University Center
12000 Alumni Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32224

- ◆ Registration:

https://www.unf.edu/military-veterans/upcoming_events.aspx

Or call MVRC at 620-5131

Registration end date March 25th

TO ALL MILITARY VETERANS!!!

Resume writing can be daunting and a difficult task to do.

Interviews can be nerve racking and scary.

Networking and talking to strangers can be awkward.

Join us in learning from our experts and how to overcome your barriers.

At the workshop you will:

- Learn how to convert your military experience into civilian experience that employers can understand
- The do's & don'ts of interviewing
- How to effectively network to a job

Plus other topics and Guest Speaker

This is a Free workshop and includes lunch and a professional notebook



Veteran - Skills To Achieve Results
Presented through the generosity of
Robert E. Jacoby



Military & Veterans Resource Center

1 UNF Drive, Bldg. 57, suite 2700

(904) 620-5131

mvrc@unf.edu

The Veterans Council wants to thank AJ Sartin for being the VC website administrator. John Mountcastle has set-up a guide for all veterans/not for profit groups on what you need to know to stay in compliance with IRS regulations.



The IRS info page has been added to the WebSite under the IRS & Charities button.

**www.VeteransCouncilOfStJohns.org or
www.StJohnsVetsCouncil.org**

If you click on them, the .pdf file opens. If the file does not open you can get Adobe Reader here, just click on <http://get.adobe.com/reader/> and you can download the file.

**If you still cannot open this link contact Michael at:
mrothfeld@anyveteran.org**

The Military Museum of North Florida is a non profit organization dedicated the honoring those men and women that have served their country in the armed forces via artifacts, displays and military memorabilia. Admission is free but donations are welcome.



The museum is located on Rt 16 in Green Cove Springs FL 1 1/2 miles East of US 17 and 1 1/2 miles West of the Shands Bridge.

**The Museums' hours are: 10:00 to 3:00
Thursday through Saturday and 12:00 to 4:00 on Sundays.**

**Call (904) 584-8719 for more information Herb Steigelman,
Curator**

Meeting:
First Tuesday of each month
Time: 1900
St. Augustine Elks Lodge #829
1420 A1A South
St. Augustine, FL 32080



Mailing Address:
MCL #383
P.O. Box 1752
St. Augustine, FL 32085
Telephone: (904) 461 - 0139
www.mclfl383.org





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Howard O. McGillin, Jr.

Colonel, US Army (Retired)
Attorney and Civil Mediator

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*Veterans Council of St. Johns County,
"Helping All Veterans"*

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County welcomes article submissions from all County Veterans & organizations. Articles should be of interest to all and veterans related. Submissions may be edited &/or shortened and used if space permits.

Send to: mrothfeld@anyveteran.org



**American Women Veterans
website:**

[http://americanwomenveterans.org/
home/](http://americanwomenveterans.org/home/)

Center for Women veterans:

[http://www.va.gov/WOMENVET/
docs/](http://www.va.gov/WOMENVET/docs/)

**The Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. is a
Not For Profit Florida Corporation.**

Our formation date was July 4, 2001 in a proclamation issued by the St. Johns County Commissioners. It is composed of representatives of the various veterans' organizations within St. Johns County.

The Veteran's Council will work with city and county governments and other local organizations to achieve the mutual goal to provide a central agency to assist in the coordination and presentation of matters concerning veterans and veterans activities in St. Johns County.

The Veteran's Council will endeavor to precipitate, stimulate and assist various organizations as they perform patriotic events. One of the major purposes is the promotion and education of national patriotic matters.

**The St. Johns County Veterans Council meets the last
Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the Elks Lodge,
1420 A1A So., St. Augustine.**

Visit our Website: www.veteranscouncilofstjohns.org

**Veterans Service Office
1955 US 1 South, Suite 550
St. Augustine, FL 32086**

(physical location)

The VSO Office is located in the St. Johns County Health and Human Services complex, behind the VA Clinic.

*The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily,
Monday through Friday excluding holidays.*

Service is by appointment.

Phone: 904-209-6160 Fax: 904-209-6161

Joseph McDermott, CVSO

Rick Rees, Assistant VSO

Tammy Shirley, Assistant VSO

The locally produced *Vietnam documentary, Service, Sacrifice and Courage* has received **280,095** views to date on YouTube.

You can view part of it at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H8Cs6Th7VNc>

Florida Veterans Programs & Projects, Inc. in association with Rolling Thunder Florida are making available free copies of its "Prisoners of War: Stolen Freedom" documentary to all Veterans Groups. Just contact Michael at: 904-829-0381 or mrothfeld@AnyVeteran.org and I will mail them or meet you to give you as many free copies as you need. Our goal is to have as many people see the documentary as possible.



Please don't forget to send your articles or Veteran organization information for the Veterans Council of St. Johns County Newsletter to Editor Michael Rothfeld at: mrothfeld@anyveteran.org

We want to tell everyone about where you served, who you served with, any interesting or exciting battles you were in, etc. We also want to know what you are doing now, what veterans groups you belong to, how to join, when they meet and what they do.

This is your Newsletter, please contribute.

The views expressed in The Patriot Reader Newsletter articles, submissions and spotlights are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Veterans Council of St. Johns County or the editors of The Patriot Reader. It is the purpose of this periodical to share a variety of information that pertain to local veterans and their organizations.