



The Patriot Reader Newsletter

P.O. Box 2117

St. Augustine, FL 32085

Bill Dudley, Publisher

Michael Rothfeld, Editor

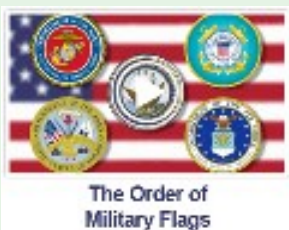
Volume 7, Issue 4

Message from the Chairman

Newsletter Date: April, 2018

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Fellow Veterans,

The next 3 months have lots of planned activities. March and April will be busy as will May.

This Friday, March 30, the Veterans Council and VVA Chapter 1084 will honor our Vietnam Veterans in a ceremony at St. Augustine National Cemetery. The program will begin at 10 AM. Our guest speaker will be Brig. Gen Richard Capps, USA, ret. Also, Congressman John Rutherford will speak and will present Vietnam pins to those who have not previously received a pin for their service. Parking as always will be a challenge so we encourage everyone to car-pool if possible. As this will be a normal work day for the National Guard, the parking lots in front of and directly behind the Guard Headquarters Building will not be available. We are requesting from the SAPD to abate the yellow curb parking rule for the period of our program that morning. Also, there is ample parking at the Bayview Nursing Home lot and along the waterfront in the metered parking spaces. Please plan to attend this

ceremony as we would like a large turnout to honor our Vietnam Veterans on the 50th Anniversary remembrance.

May 15th, the Veterans Council will host a POW / MIA flag ceremony at the County Administration Building at 500 San Sebastian View. The Council is presenting two POW / MIA flags to the County to be flown on the main flag poles at the County Administration Building and the Health and Human Services Building. The flag raising ceremony will begin at 0730. The Veterans Council has also petitioned the County to declare St. Johns County a Purple Heart County. The County Commissioners have unanimously agreed and a County Proclamation will be presented to the Veterans Council for this purpose during the regular scheduled County Commission meeting following the POW / MIA flag ceremony. We are asking all Purple Heart recipients from St. Johns County to contact the Veterans Council so that we can have your names included in those being honored.

Our local MOAA Chapter is planning for our Memorial Day ceremony to be celebrated this year on May 28 at the St. Augustine National



Cemetery. This year's speaker will be Maj. General Emmett Titshaw, USAF ret.

This month's Veterans Council meeting will be held on Thurs. March 29th and we have an eventful evening planned. Our guest speaker will be Laura Wynn, Curriculum Specialist, Secondary Social Studies, Advanced Academic Programs, SJC School District. She will be presenting "Vietnam Instruction in St. Johns County High Schools." Many of our Board of Education members and our County Commissioners will join us for the evening to hear Laura's presentation. This is a presentation you will not want to miss. Also, the Forward March Board of Directors will attend and present the Veterans Council with a check from the proceeds of this year's Military Ball. Please plan to attend Thursday nights Veterans Council meeting.

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

Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home



We recently started a new music therapy program that involves quite a bit of drumming.....everyone loves it!



St. Patrick's Day



**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 March 19, 2018**. The meeting will be at **7:00pm**. The meeting will take place at Community Hospice, **4266 Sunbeam Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32257 in Conference Room A**.

Jacksonville National Cemetery Support Committee Meetings for 2018
At Community Hospice of NE FL.
4266 Sunbeam Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32257
Hadlow Bldg – Conference Room A 7:00pm

Monday, April 16th

Monday, May 14th

Thursday, May 24th - placement of Flags for Memorial Day (Details TBA)

Saturday, May 26th - Memorial Day Observance Ceremony (Details TBA)

Monday, Sept 17th

Monday, Oct 15th

Monday, Nov 5th

Monday, Dec 3rd

Saturday, Dec 15th - Wreaths Across America (Details TBA)

All are invited to attend our meetings and become a part of this Committee.

+++++2017/2018 Officers of the SCJNC+++++

Chairman: Steve Spickelmier

Vice Chairman: Bill Dudley, Treasurer: John Mountcastle

Assistant Treasurer: Michael Rothfeld, Secretary: Kathy Church

Chaplain: Michael Halyard, Master-At-Arms: Joe McDermott

Historian: Kathy Cayton

From John Burgess : We have a name change and website change North East Florida Veterans Council will be changing to Veterans Council of Duval County Florida. We have started building our new web site:

www.duvalveteranscouncil.org

The Veterans Council thanks the Chapman Charitable Trust for its donation

On a sunny breezy March day at the St. Augustine National Cemetery, National Cemetery Director Al Richburg, Veterans Council Chairman Bill Dudley and Board Members John Mountcastle and Michael Rothfeld met with Christine and Steve Chapman and Board Members of the All American Air Charitable Foundation to receive a \$ 5,000 check to be used for the installation of American made American flags along the walkways of the cemetery. The flags will be removeable and be displayed for National holidays, i.e., Memorial Day, Veterans Day as well as for Wreaths Across America.

Portions used are from an article by Margo Pope in the St. Augustine Record

For nine years, the Chapman Charitable Foundation has helped change the world of St. Augustine through fundraising efforts and the All American Air Table Tennis Classic. Since its inception in 2009, the foundation has donated more than \$500,000 to local nonprofits. The 2017 Table Tennis Classic alone raised \$100,000.

The current board is comprised of nine women, all of whom volunteer their time, but commitment to the work of AAACF extends far beyond its Board of Directors.

“We are amazed each year when our generous community supports us beyond even our wildest imaginations,” said Christine Chapman, president of AAACF. “Our area has suffered greatly in the past two years at the hands of Mother Nature, and we remain amazed and grateful for the generosity of our friends and neighbors who, even though they may be suffering, find it in their hearts to continue to give to others less fortunate.”

The sold-out 2018 Table Tennis Classic is a two-day competition with both youth and adult tournaments in addition to an after-party. The event, which was held on Saturday, Feb. 10 at River House, was fully funded by Steve Chapman’s All American Air, so 100 percent of the proceeds from ticket sales, sponsor donations and community support is donated directly to local charities.

As a result of continual growth over the past nine years, AAACF has assisted with more than 80 different charities.

When choosing which causes to champion, board members simply look to the foundation’s fundamental purpose: to assist individuals and nonprofit organizations that are dedicated to making the St. Augustine area a better place to live.

To date, the organization’s giving history is far-ranging and involves large community concerns such as Habitat for Humanity, Community Hospice & Palliative Care, Florida Chapter of the ALS Association and Flagler Hospital as well as smaller organizations like local sports teams, school organizations and arts groups.



From left: John Mountcastle, Cemetery Director Al Richburg, Council Chairman Bill Dudley receiving the check, Steve Chapman presenting the check, Chapman Charitable Trust Board Members Christine Chapman, Diane Leonardi, Linda Meehan, Debbie Brownell and Erin Worrell not in picture, cameraman Michael Rothfeld



All 5 Northeast Florida veterans councils working to share same vision

By Joe Daraskevich, FLTimes Union

Each of the five counties in Northeast Florida has a veterans council that advocates for the men and women who served in the military. They work to include various organizations within the counties to make sure their voices are heard by local officials.

Now all the councils are working together to make sure their collective voice is heard and their goals are in line through the newly created County Council of Veterans Presidents.

“It’s very important that we get together and we decide which direction we are going on different items,” said **Steve Spickelmier**, president of the group.

Spickelmier is connected with several veterans organizations in the area. He said for years he’s worked with people from all five counties on certain projects, but they never had a formal way of coming together as a team for important issues that impact everyone.

Representatives from the councils in Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Baker and Nassau counties now meet four times a year to make sure they are on the same page.

The smaller counties are included in discussions just as much as the larger ones, and it allows them to bring ideas back to the veterans they are representing, said **Doc Monaghan** of Nassau County.

“Each individual goes back to their respective groups and informs them about what all the other counties are doing,” Monaghan said. He’s the first vice president behind Spickelmier.

In Nassau they have a new initiative where a group of Vietnam veterans is offering services to other veterans in need. Whether it is repair work on a house or a ride to the grocery store, the group is working to provide those types of services to veterans in the area, Monaghan said.

He said sharing ideas like that with the overall group could lead to similar initiatives in other places or people with skills offering their time.

It isn’t a matter of trying to replicate everything the other groups are doing, he said. Each county is different and they need to continue to operate on their own, but it’s helpful to know they have support from the others on certain topics, Monaghan said.

He gave the example of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Most veterans in the area deal with the organization regularly. But if the counties address their issues individually it won't make as much of an impact.

Bill Dudley represents St. Johns County in the group of council presidents. He said his county has been organized for years, but this new collective council is making their voices that much louder.

When the VA clinic was changing locations in St. Johns, it shook veterans in the area because they weren't sure where they would have to go for healthcare.

He held meetings to discuss the options and eventually ended up reaching out to veterans throughout Northeast Florida for help. Dudley said he collected thousands of signatures that helped pack a punch when he sent letters with his concerns to President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, the secretary of the VA and other politicians on the local and national level.

The letters were productive in accomplishing the goal, but now that they've created a council of veterans from each county it will be much easier to pull off something like that, Dudley said.

Bob Brewster is from Clay County and serves as the treasurer for the group. He said the new group is just trying to accomplish the same old goal of being organized to the point that they can make a difference.

He gave the example of local American Legion posts where everyone seems to have the winning idea when they are sitting around having a few drinks, but they are nowhere to be found when it's time for an actual meeting.

Brewster said that's how things were before. Someone would have a great idea, but they didn't know where to go with it to let others know the plan.

Larry Porterfield said he's already sure this new group will do great things based on the fact that he's seen people from the other counties come out to attend events in Baker County.

He said his is by far the smallest county of the five in terms of population, but just under 10 percent of county residents are veterans.

This past Veterans Day his council held a steak dinner with 185 plates. At the end of the ceremony he called for all the Vietnam-era veterans to come forward to receive a lapel pin to recognize their service.

He said representatives from other counties were so impressed that they expressed interest in doing similar things for the veterans in their counties.

This year the veterans in Baker County plan to raise money to build a memorial for fallen law enforcement officers. The plan is to have one in place by the middle of summer, and they want to borrow ideas from a similar tribute at the Nassau County Sheriff's Office.

Joe Daraskevich: (904) 359-4308

The Veterans Council of St Johns County received this letter about a young lady that used the information she found on our website for her school psychology project on mental health awareness and Veteran PTSD.

Mr. Dudley and Mr. Havekost, thank you very much for the helpful information on PTSD.

Good Afternoon Mr. Dudley and Mr. Havekost,

I thought you both might like to know that my daughter used your links page (veteranscouncilsjc.org/links.htm) as a reference point for her school psychology project on mental health awareness and veteran PTSD. I wanted to say that you've done a really great job and I very much admire what you do. Thank you for working to share this information with the public - I think your efforts are probably helping a lot of people here.

I thought it was also worth mentioning that Amelia is using two other articles specifically on post traumatic stress disorder's effect on sleep and a guide on mental health and wellness from Bradley University's counseling program, which I thought might be of interest to you and those looking for some guidance here. I've listed the articles below if you'd like to review. I would love to show Amelia if you find it's something you are able to add - she wants to go to school to become a social worker, so that would probably mean a lot to her if you didn't mind including them. It's possible she could even receive a few bonus points on her project for helping others through her research.

Anyway, I'd love to hear what you think about the suggestion, Bill!

All my best, Miriam Webber

<https://onlinedegrees.bradley.edu/counseling/masters/a-counselors-guide-to-mental-health-and-wellness/>

<https://sleepopolis.com/education/ptsd-and-sleep/>

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County took part in the “Active Boomers & Senior Expo” at the St. Augustine Outlet Malls. Many St. Johns County veterans organizations also joined in this annual event.



Sea Cadets



Veterans Council & Veterans Treatment Court



Vietnam Veterans of America 1084



US Marine Corps League Oldest City Detachment



Ancient City Chapter, Military Officers



St Johns County Veterans Service Office



Cecil Field POW*MIA Memorial



Navy League, St Augustine-Palm Coast Chapter



K9s For Warriors

From the Pt. Orange Observer

The visit was part of a two-day learning event at Spruce Creek teacher Chase Tramont's classroom.

by: Nichole Osinski Staff Writer

"We were known as baby killers. We were spit on. We were told by our own government not to wear our uniforms, to go home to change clothes, because we were going to get protests."

Robert Adkins, a Vietnam veteran, was speaking to a class of students at Spruce Creek High as part of a two-day visit, from Thursday, March 1, to Wednesday, March 2, to provide a personal perspective about serving in the war. Adkins, along with four other veterans and a military spouse, had been invited to participate in an annual presentation put on by U.S. History teacher Chase Tramont.

The classroom had been transformed into a military base in a jungle. Camouflage and bushes lined the walls, bags of sand sat piled in a corner and Army helmets were placed on some students' desks.

For the students present, the time with the veterans was meant not only to learn but get answers to any and all questions, no matter the subject. And the questions poured out.

"How did you deal with people dying around you?"

"What was it like coming home to protests?"

"Did religion play a part for you in the war?"

The veterans didn't hold back. In addition to describing what it was like coming home to protests, Adkins told the students about the saddest word he has ever heard: mommy.

Adkins explained that at night he would hear the men around him crying because they were homesick and terrified. He said they didn't call for their wives or their girlfriends, they called for their mothers. Adkins, who has had to be in therapy once a month, said for years after the war he would be triggered when he heard that word, even hating be around children when they would use it.

"It was a sad word," Adkins said.

Army veteran Kenneth Kinsler, who was drafted in 1967 and fought in south Vietnam, recalled a phrase that he said many people in the military would use: don't mean nothin'. Kinsler said it was a way of put



ting up a wall when they would see something bad.

"That doesn't make it go away and that's where PTSD comes from; you think you can shut it up by just saying that but you really can't," Kindler said. "You never get used to it, you never get used to people dying, you never get used to suffering."

Students also got the chance to hear about what it was like waiting for a loved one to come home from Vietnam. Diana Schaack was at Spruce Creek with her husband, Terry Schaack, who was drafted in 1967. The couple, who celebrated their 50th anniversary last year, were high school sweethearts who had to change their wedding plans when they realized Terry would soon be drafted.

They married on July 1 and Terry was drafted on July 11. He was in Vietnam by Christmas. Diana would send her husband food, clothing, anything he needed to survive.

"I was one of the lucky ones to go home," Terry said.

The idea for the veteran program started about six years ago. When Tramont was a youth pastor he would have warfare weekends or warfare Wednesday nights where he would decorate according to the theme. When he started teaching about Vietnam he decided to take the concept to a new level to create an atmosphere he thought would help the students learn best.

Tramont borrowed a few items from a friend and started out with one veteran coming to the class to speak. At first the veterans would speak only about Vietnam but with each year the questions grew and now, while Vietnam is still the central topic of discussion, the veterans talk about everything, from living in the '60s and '70s, the music they listen to and whatever else the students want to know.

"I'm just super glad they're more open to any questions, even if it was super personal," high school student Kevon Johnson said.

However, Tramont said that while the special classes help the students, it's also for the veterans. According to Tramont, some of the veterans hadn't opened up about their experiences for 50 years. Tramont added that his goal as an educator is to teach history, respect and patriotism, subjects he feels are epitomized by veterans.

It's also a way to say welcome home to those that never heard those words.

"As long as I teach, the service and sacrifices of these men and women will never be forgotten or marginalized," Tramont said. "Not on my watch."



~Honoring all Vietnam Veterans
for their service~
and sacrifices for their country~

Hosted by

VFW John E. Mealy Memorial Post 3282

5810 S. Williams Blvd. Port Orange, Florida

Friday, March 30, 2018

4:00 PM---5:00 PM

**Official United States of America Vietnam War
Commemorative Partner Event**

hosted by

contact Joe Rosa 386.453.3101 or Rod Phillips 386.690.9553

Vietnam Veterans of America Daytona Beach Chapter 1048



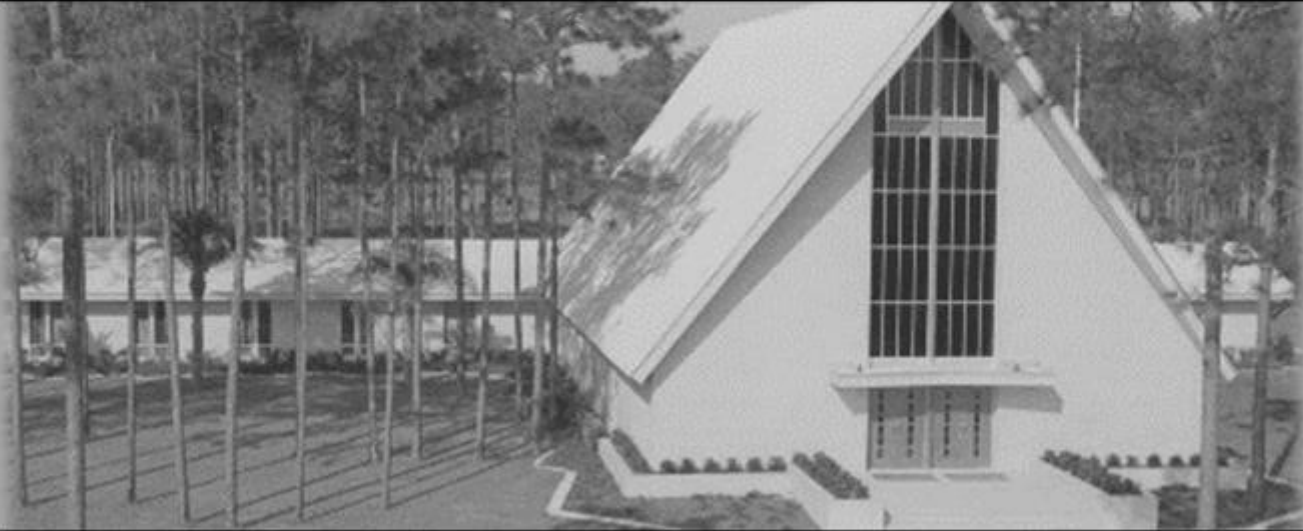
**Ormond
Strong.**





Chapel Pew Restoration Campaign

6112 New World Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32221
(904) 303-8907
www.powmiamemorial.org



The Chapel at Cecil Commerce Center was originally dedicated in 1963 as part of NAS Cecil Field. The Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc. organization's objective is to honor former Prisoners of War (POWs) and those who remain Missing in Action (MIAs) from all branches of the military. The Chapel serves as a focal point in this effort, as we restore the current chapel building. While the chapel will serve as the centerpiece for honoring former POWs and past and present MIAs, this organization will be building a place of education, respite, and reflection on their sacrifices.

To bring the historic chapel back to its intended use, we are seeking donations for the renovation of the chapel as well as the ability to purchase a pew in someone's honor or memory. If you would like to purchase a full pew (\$1,500) or donate towards the purchase of a pew, please fill out the information below. Each donor will be recognized on a plaque displayed in the chapel.



Donations and payments can be made on our website at www.powmiamemorial.org or mailed to:

Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc.
ATTN: Chapel Pews
6112 New World Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32221

Purchaser Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

In Honor of

In Memory of

Name(s) In Honor /In Memory of: _____

Purchase: Pew (\$1500) Qty: _____ Donation Amount \$ _____ Total: \$ _____

CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL IS A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION - REGISTRATION NUMBER: CH51569. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 800 435 7352, WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL IS AN IRS 501(C)(3), PUBLIC CHARITY. ID# 31954. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE.

MISSION BACKGROUND

Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has been formed to restore and establish a national memorial that will serve as a historic and destination site for Jacksonville and to serve as an educational resource for generations to come.

The memorial site, located at the former Naval Air Station Cecil Field, was originally dedicated on September 11, 1973 and consisted of markers and associated trees for each of the 16 POW/MIA pilots (an area known as Hero's Walk and Freedom Trees), a pavilion, a stage area, a starburst metal display of aircraft, a granite base seal of NAS Cecil Field and a chapel. This property was given to the City of Jacksonville when Cecil Field was decommissioned in 1999. As a result, the existing memorial has been forgotten.

However, the non-profit organization was given a lease by the Jacksonville City Council and the Mayor's office, and given the rights to develop, expand and maintain the 26-acre memorial.



A FEW QUOTES SUBMITTED BY OUR NATIONAL LEADERS



"Your proposal to use part of the former Naval Air Station Cecil Field for a POW/MIA Memorial is a fitting location to pay tribute to this very special group. Given that Mary Hoff, the creator of the POW/MIA flag, is a long-time resident of Jacksonville, and that her husband, Lieutenant Commander Michael G. Hoff, is memorialized at Cecil Field, there could not be a more appropriate site for the POW/MIA Memorial."

U.S. Congressman
John Rutherford

"The proposal to build the Cecil Field Prisoners of War and Missing in Action Museum is a great opportunity to honor the service members who did not return home from war."

U.S. Senator
Marco Rubio

"With the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, we can renew our commitment to all those who have worn the uniform, to the children and families, and thank them for their selflessness and bravery."

U.S. Senator
Bill Nelson



JOIN THE MISSION TO BRING A NATIONAL POW/MIA MEMORIAL TO JACKSONVILLE

MISSION STATEMENT

HONOR ALL FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR;
REMEMBER AND NEVER FORGET THOSE
QUIET, MISSING IN ACTION HEROES AND THE
FAMILIES THAT WAIT FOR THEIR RETURN.

More than 82,000 are still Missing in Action and Unaccounted for since WWII

MEMORIAL STRATEGIC PLAN

With the help of the community, Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc. is raising funds to make this memorial a true national honor to all POW/MIA personnel from every state in America. These funds will enable the organization to accomplish the following memorial projects:

- Restore and use the historic chapel (named the "Chapel of the High-Speed Paves") for memorial services, ceremonies and weddings.
- Enhance the existing sacred grounds of the park and to construct a replica of the USS Saratoga (CV-60).
- Refurbish and utilize existing building 333 as a starting point for the POW/MIA memorial center and museum.
- Establish a new memorial center - to honor all Former Prisoners of War, acknowledge those still Missing in Action; feature the history of the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action flag; house the history of NAS Cecil Field.
- Educate the public on the Prisoner of War and Missing in Action issue through exhibits, videos, artifacts and memorabilia.
- Establish a national destination for military remembrance and celebration (there is not a national memorial for all Missing in Action in the United States).



Hero's Walk & Freedom Trees



Chapel of the High-Speed Paves



Starburst Sculpture

CECIL FIELD NATIONAL POW/MIA MEMORIAL PARK



HOW YOU CAN HELP HONOR OUR MILITARY HEROES



It will take considerable dollars to fund this sacred project. At this point, the project will depend on contributions from private citizens. You can help this effort by making contributions online by going to our website at powmiamemorial.org or to make checks payable to:

Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc.
612 New World Avenue Jacksonville, Florida 32225

ONLINE PowMiaMemorial.org

Facebook.com/Cecil-Field-POW-MIA-Memorial-Inc-1084025864845232/

Twitter.com/CFPOW/MIA

Instagram.com/cecilfieldpowmia/

Disclaimer: Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc. IS A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION. REGISTRATION NUMBER CHECKED A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 800-435-1352, WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE STATE.

How to Join and Who to Contact about joining a local Vietnam Veterans of America group

Duval County: Anyone can get in touch with the Duval County VVA 1046 at 904-419-8621 or email info@vva1046.com, or call me directly, info listed below.

Anthony (Tony) D'Aleo, President, Nicholas J. Cutinha
VVA Chapter 1046, Cell # 904-910-2386

Clay County: Anyone wishing to join the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter in Clay County should contact Gary Newman, Chapter # 1059 President. Any Vietnam veteran is eligible to join this very exclusive organization, era veterans are included.

Contact information is as follows:

Gary Newman, P.O. Box 626, Orange Park, Fl. 32067-0626

Tel: 904 269 1857, E-mail: agnjustice@yahoo.com

We meet on the 1st Saturday of each month at 11:00 AM @ the Middleburg American Legion, Post # 250. Come join your Brothers and Sisters.

St Johns County, VVA Leo C Chase Chapter 1084: Those seeking information can call 904-233-4712 (leave message), or email to president@vva1084.org or membership@vva1084.org. One can also check out our website at vva1084.org.

Our membership meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at Jaybird's Restaurant at 2600 N Ponce de Leon Blvd, St Augustine. For the hardcore, a smaller group meets at Jaybird's every Monday morning around 8 AM for BB&B (Blather, BS, and Brotherhood). We have a great group, and all are welcome to visit and participate!

John Leslie, President, Vietnam Veterans of America
Leo C Chase Chapter 1084, (904) 233-4712



From left: Gary Newman and Tony D'Aleo receiving Member of the Year Award from the VVA FL State Council. On right is John Leslie receiving Award for Newsletter of the Year.
Photo by Dave Treffinger

How to Join and Who to Contact about joining a local Vietnam Veterans of America local group

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Anthony (Tony) D'Aleo, President, Nicholas J. Cutinha, VVA Chapter 1046,
Cell # 904-910-2386

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Contact information is as follows: Gary Newman, P.O. Box 626, Orange Park, Fl. 32067-0626
Tel: 904 269 1857, E-mail: agnjustice@yahoo.com

We meet on the 1st Saturday of each month at 11:00 AM @ the Middleburg American Legion, Post # 250. Come join your Brothers and Sisters.

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John Leslie, President, Vietnam Veterans
America

Leo C Chase Chapter 1084,
(904) 233-4712

The 3 Presidents: from left,
Tony D'Aleo, Gary Newman
and John Leslie



of

From: Moe Moyer, National Director of the Ride Home
Subject: Stolen Freedom
Reference; <https://www.facebook.com/groups/VCSJC/permalink/1612341998813583/>

Good Wednesday Morning Mr. Rothfeld!!
Thank YOU, Michael!

Your selfless act of **dedicating your documentary, STOLEN FREEDOM to Chief Boatswain William (Bill) Ingram** is confirmation of your commitment to the Prisoner War/Missing in Action Mission. Bill's story needed to be told, not so much for History's sake for Bill's sake. He was very proud of his participation in your documentary and boasted that fact often and loud to all that would listen. Your telling/presentation rarely failed to bring tears to the eyes of the audience and it gave them a better understanding of the physical as well as mental wounds inflicted by the act of being held against your will by the 'enemy'.

Please share with Mr. Flag our appreciation for all his effort in bringing this project to life. Job WELL Done, Gentlemen!

We respectfully request the web-links to the film you offered in your Facebook posting. We would like to post the links on our websites as well as promote the film through our Facebook sites for The RIDE HOME & HONOR-RELEASE-RETURN – (<http://www.honorreleasereturn.com/> - <http://www.theridehome.com/>). We will also share with the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial Board (cc above) with the hope of getting them to do the same.

With admiration and respect,

Until they all come home..... Moe

Moe, thank you very much for your kind words. We knew we had a story to tell and put a lot of work into accurately retelling the ex POWs stories. Bill Ingram was an unassuming hero in the true sense of the word. He will be missed but we do have his story recorded on "film" for others to view and learn from.

I hope Sam/John/Mike at the Cecil Field Memorial will use the documentary to tell this heroic story of survival and triumph over evil.

I would also like to mention the support Veterans Council Chairman Bill Dudley gave to the making, financing, producing and completion of this documentary as well as your very generous donation to us to enable us to make and distribute 500 dvds of Stolen Freedom. Thank you Moe for keeping this alive and for your complete dedication that many of us often take for granted.. Michael

Here is a link to our POW documentary, it is posted on the University of Florida's online digital military library website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ApZQRgT9e4c&feature=youtu.be>

POW documentary "Prisoners of War: Stolen Freedom compares the stories of four American servicemen through their time as prisoners of war in three major 20th century conflicts; World War II, Korea and the Vietnam war. Their stories are supported by archival motion pictures and photographs obtained at the US National Archives as well as through sketches and memorabilia collected by each of the men. Their stories are less about atrocity than they are about the survival of the human spirit and the camaraderie that helped each man survive years of incarceration. Each story is followed by spectacular recounts of their days of release. Produced by Michael Rothfeld & Bill Dudley and the Veterans Council of St. Johns County, directed by Eric Flag"



of
as

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Stop by the Corazon Cinema and Café located in the heart of St. Augustine to catch a great film or a bite to eat (free parking). **Tell us you are a veteran and receive 10% off any food or drinks.** Beer and wine available.

The newsletter of the Semper Fidelis Society

<http://semperfidelisociety.org/newsletters>

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Semper Fidelis Society is an association of Marines whose purpose is to maintain the camaraderie, esprit-de-corps and sense of purpose that identifies us as United States Marines. We believe that the Marine Corps values of honor, courage and commitment, coupled with the historical tenacity of Marines to accomplish their mission are traits that are worthy of respect and emulation. In the interest of Marines taking care of Marines and sharing our values within our community, we will provide a forum/fraternity of Marines that will foster an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation with the intent of providing a network of Marines who will work towards the goal of Marines taking care of Marines and establishing a set of connections that can benefit Marines, Navy FMF Corpsmen and their families.

VISION STATEMENT

Ensure that Marines and Navy FMF Corpsmen are respected and recognized for their services, always receive their benefits and entitlements; are recognized for the sacrifices they and their families made on behalf of this nation.





Governor Scott presentation of Veterans Service Award to Tony D'Aleo, President Duval County Chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America.

NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



Thursday - March 29, 2018 at 3 p.m.

**Camp Blanding Museum
5629 State Road 16 West, Starke, FL 32091**

— HOST —

Maj. Gen. Michael Calhoun
The Adjutant General, Florida National Guard

— KEYNOTE SPEAKER —

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Richard Capps
Former Assistant Adjutant General-Army,
Florida National Guard

— REMARKS —

Representative Ted Yoho
Florida's 3rd Congressional District

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD | CAMP BLANDING JOINT TRAINING CENTER | FOR MORE INFORMATION 904-682-3196

MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT – FLORIDA, “IT’S THE RIGHT THING TO DO”

The Missing in America Project (MIAP) is a registered 501(c)3 Non-profit Corporation. Our mission is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed cremains of American veterans. Missing in America Project was launched nationwide in January, 2007. *****

NATIONWIDE PROGRESS AS OF 3/22/2018

Total Funeral Homes Visited - 2,209
Veterans Cremains Identified - 3,717
Cremains Found - 16,074
Veterans Interred - 3,402



FLORIDA’S PROGRESS AS OF 3/20/2018

Total Funeral Homes Visited - 138
Veterans Interred – 167
Dependents Interred – 1
Missions Scheduled - 27
Cremains Found – 1,208
Spouses Interred – 80
Missions Pending - 29
Call to Honors -13

On Saturday, April 14, 2018, MIAP-FL held its 14th CALL TO HONOR at the South Florida National Cemetery in Lake Worth, FL. On this day we will inter 25 veterans and 2 spouses of veterans which include, 11 Army veterans, 2 spouses, 3 MC veterans, 10 Navy veterans and 1 AF veterans. Included are veterans from WWII, Korea and Vietnam. The longest that anyone has set unclaimed dates back to 1988.

MIAP volunteers are continuing to work with Craig Funeral Home in St. Augustine and we hope to have Call to Honor # 15 at the Jacksonville National Cemetery sometime at the beginning of June 2018.

We are also working with the Miami-Dade ME’s Office to cremate and return to his family in Texas a Vietnam Veteran that was homeless and was found dead in Miami. His body has been at the morgue for two years now and we hope to have him returned home very soon.

Our volunteer in south Florida has started working with a funeral home in Vero Beach and we hope to have Call to Honor #16 possibly in June at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. This will be our first service at this cemetery that opened in 2016.

There are many ways one can get involved with MIAP. Please go to our website @ www.miap.us for more info. You can keep up with our events on our Facebook Page at Missing In America Project – Florida (miap-florida). Many other states also have FB pages. You can also view many videos from other services on You Tube. Please feel free to contact me at my info listed below.

“YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN”

Kathy Church -MIAP FL State Coordinator

miapjax@yahoo.com

904-219-3035



Here is the spring 2018 edition of the Coalition of Families POW/MIA newsletter. Thank you Moe Moyer for this.

<http://www.coalitionoffamilies.org/newsletters>

The Nease High School Navy JROTC is the best in northern Florida and the state of Georgia after winning the Area 12 Drill Championships on March 3 in Douglas, Georgia — the fourth consecutive year the team has earned the title and a trip to the national championships.



Nease competed against the top 16 Navy high school JROTC drill teams across the area. Sixty NJROTC programs competed at local drill meets during the fall and winter with the best advancing to the Area championships.

In addition to winning the overall drill meet championships, Nease took first place in personnel inspection, overall drill, unarmed exhibition and armed exhibition; second place in overall athletics, academics, unarmed basic, pushups and situps; and third place in armed basic.

Several cadets also earned individual medals for achievement: Scott Cummings in academics; Erin Sass in pushups; and Eizabeth Villalba, Aberlyn Short and Teagan Pettit in sit-ups.

Nease will travel to the Navy National Drill Championships in Pensacola on April 6.

St Johns County to become a PURPLE HEART COUNTY

Fellow Veterans:

The County Commissioners will issue a County Proclamation on May 15, 2018 declaring St. Johns County a Purple Heart County. We would like to have every veteran who has received a Purple Heart while serving in any military branch of the Armed Forces to join us at 7:30 am on May 15, 2018, 0900 at the County Commission meeting when the proclamation is presented to the Veterans Council. The County Commissioners and Veterans Council would like to recognize you on that day and thank you for your service to our country.



Please let me know by contacting me at my email address if you or someone you know is a Purple Heart recipient so that we may recognize them at the County Purple Heart ceremony.

William Dudley, Chairman

Veterans Council of St. Johns County

anuday00@aol.com

May 15th the Veterans Council along with the St Johns County Board of Commissioners will hold a ceremony to raise the POW/MIA flag at the County building at 500 San Sebastian View along with honoring and recognizing local Purple Heart recipients as the Commissioners issue a Proclamation naming St Johns County a Purple Heart county. The event starts at 7:30 am.

How do I enroll a Purple Heart Recipient?

With your help we are building a database of Purple Heart recipients from all branches of service, all wars for which the Purple Heart was awarded, and from all across the nation. In order to be enrolled we require documentation of receipt of the Purple Heart. This can include a variety of materials including:

The DD-214, DD-215 or other discharge forms listing awards

General or Permanent Orders

A photograph of the back of the medal bearing the recipient's name

We are also looking for photographs, telegrams, letters home, news articles or other materials that help to tell the story of each enrolled Purple Heart recipient. Please complete the enrollment form and return to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor with proper documentation.



How do I obtain DD-214 or other discharge papers?

To obtain a copy of the necessary documentation, please contact the National Personnel Records Center. If you are not a veteran or the next of kin, you must complete the Standard Form 180 (SF180). This form is available at National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

How many Purple Hearts have been awarded?

As there was not a consistent record kept since the award was established in 1932, we can only estimate the total number which have been awarded. At this time, it estimated that there have been 1.8 million Purple Hearts awarded. The award was first retroactive to those who received "wound chevrons" and "certificates of merit" during World War I as well as to those from earlier wars who chose to apply for the award. (From 1932-1942 recipients had to be living veterans or military personnel). The earliest conflict for which there are recipients is the American Civil War. From 1942 on it was limited to service men and women wounded or killed by enemy action on or after 5 April 1917. Records were sometimes lost during wartime when headquarters were overrun and unfortunately many were lost during a fire at the National Personnel Records Center in 1973.

Why do I have to enroll someone? Don't you already have the names of all the recipients?

We do not have the names of all the recipients as there is no comprehensive list of Purple Heart recipients in existence. As stated above, the actual number of awards is unknown. We do not automatically receive information when a person is awarded a Purple Heart.

Our enrollments are voluntary and come to us from the recipients, their families or their friends, as this is the only way we can create the most comprehensive list of Purple Heart recipients.

Where is the National Purple Heart located?

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is co-located with the New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site in New York's Hudson River Valley. Just sixty miles north of Manhattan and twelve miles north of the United States Military Academy at West Point, the Cantonment was an extensive military post housing some 7,500 soldiers and 500 civilian dependents in the closing years of the Revolutionary War. Officers met here in a chapel and meeting hall called the "Temple of Virtue" to review candidates for the Badge of Military Merit, the inspiration for today's Purple Heart. In 1932, 137 veterans of World War I received their awards on these very grounds.

What is the "Roll of Honor"?

The Roll of Honor is a database created to preserve and share the stories of Purple Heart recipients. It can be accessed at six interactive computer kiosks at the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and online through this website. Visitors to the Hall or the website can learn about individual Purple Heart recipients by reading the stories, and looking at the photographs and other documents that have been submitted to the Hall of Honor. Enrollment is voluntary. If you are interested in learning more about the enrollment process please refer to "How do I enroll a Purple Heart Recipient?" above.

How do I locate a Purple Heart recipient in the Roll of Honor Online?

First select "Roll of Honor" from the links at the top of the page. Second, type the name of the individual you are looking for (Last Name, First Name) . Select the search button. When the thumbnail results are displayed, click on the profile for the recipient you are searching. You will then have displayed the complete profile on that recipient.

If you are unable to find the recipient you are looking for try varying your search: Conduct a search using the recipient's last name leaving out their first name. Then, look through the list of search results. Or, you might want to try alternate spellings of the name you are using for your search

If you are still unable to locate the recipient you are looking for, are you certain that this recipient has been enrolled with the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor? The absence of a name in the Roll of Honor can simply be because that person has not yet been enrolled. As mentioned above, we do not automatically receive the names of Purple Heart recipients so we have no way of knowing when an award was made.

If you know of a Purple Heart recipient who is not enrolled, we hope that you will consider having that person enrolled in to the Roll of Honor. For more information about enrolling at the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, please refer to "How do I enroll a Purple Heart Recipient?" above.

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County would like to congratulate Moe Moyer and “The Ride Home” for winning Organization of the Year for its “Honor, Release & Return” Program



On behalf of all our members, we accepted the ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR (2017) award from the VIETNAM and ALL VETERANS of FLORIDA, Inc., State Coalition's President, Van Carter. Proof positive that All the Advocacy work YOU do does NOT go Un-noticed!





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Exposed to burn pits?

Here's three things you should know about the Burn Pit Registry:

Registry participants can get a free medical evaluation to discuss their concerns and completed questionnaire with a knowledgeable VA provider. Call a local Environmental Health Coordinator today to schedule your evaluation.

Joining the registry is faster than ever. We've updated the eligibility verification process—greatly shortening or eliminating previous delays resulting from manual eligibility checks.

The registry is not just for Post-9/11 Veterans. Many #Veterans who deployed after 1990 qualify.

Check your eligibility and sign up: <http://go.usa.gov/xnH8J>

Applications for new VA ID cards are open By: Leo Shane III

The Department of Veterans Affairs is accepting applications for new Veteran ID cards as of today, but questions surrounding the program's costs and private sector involvement remain unclear.

The cards — designed to be an easy way for veterans to prove their military service for a host of nongovernment services — will be delivered within 60 days of applying with digital copies available next month.

Veterans can start the application process now through the main VA website at www.vets.gov. The link to the ID application is on the bottom left of the page, labeled “Apply for printed Veteran ID Card.”

The cards were mandated by Congress in July 2015, with the expectation of distribution sometime in 2017. In a release announcing the official start of the program Wednesday, VA officials said their moves are “fulfilling a promise that has been unfulfilled since 2015.”

“The new Veterans Identification Card provides a safer and more convenient and efficient way for most veterans to show proof of service,” VA Secretary David Shulkin said in a statement. “With the card, veterans with honorable service to our nation will no longer need to carry around their paper DD-214s to obtain veteran discounts and other services.”

Cards will be printed and shipped by Office Depot, an arrangement that VA officials said will allow veterans to receive the IDs free of charge. VA officials declined to release the cost of the printing and shipping arrangement with Office Depot. The final design of the cards has not been finalized yet. Previous versions had the Office Depot logo on the back with the veteran's information on the front.

Under rules developed by VA, individuals who served in the armed forces, including the reserve components, and have a character of discharge of honorable or general under honorable conditions are eligible for the new IDs. Veterans with other than honorable status are not eligible.

That has upset some veteran's groups, which have noted that the legislation to create the cards had no such restrictions.

The new cards won't replace VA medical cards or official defense retiree cards and will not carry any force of law behind them. Veterans will also need to register for an online account with VA to apply for the card.

Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. Minutes of February 22, 2018

Officers present: Chairman Bill Dudley, Vice Chairman Ray Quinn, Treasurer John Mountcastle, Secretary Michael Rothfeld



Chairman Dudley called the meeting to order at 1900 hours

Chairman Dudley led the Pledge to the Flag
Vice Chairman Ray Quinn gave the Invocation

Last month's Minutes were approved as read
The Treasurer's Report was approved as read

Introduction of Guests: Joseph Lennox VVA 1084, Tom Richardson Asst Dir. (VETS), Joe Snowberger United Way NE FL, Mike Semko "Project Gunny"

Speakers: Leigh Devane, Lassen State VA Nursing Home Therapy Supervisor: Leigh spoke in detail about the physical layout of Lassen, the admittance of more female veterans, the different programs, and the criteria for admission- an honorable discharge and a letter from your doctor saying that you need to be at a facility like Lassen. There is a wait of several months before admission.



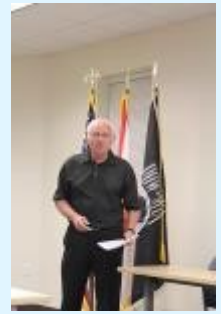
Chairman Bill Dudley: presented a Power Point slide show of the Veterans Council's many activities, and events through the last few years focusing mainly on 2017.



Committee Reports:

Mac: Mac gave an update on the VAs initiative to modernize VA appeals.

John L: spoke about VVA 1084s involvement and leadership roles in upcoming events, focusing on the March 30th Vietnam Commemoration at the St Augustine National Cemetery. Vietnam veteran, BG R Capps ret will be the Keynote speaker.



Michael: Invited all to the **March 29th** Council meeting to hear the County Secondary Social Studies Curriculum Specialist talk about how Vietnam is taught in County Schools.

Chairman Dudley: items discussed- Making St Johns County a Purple Heart County and having POW flags flying over the Counties two buildings in a ceremony before Memorial Day. The Chairman congratulated John Leslie and the VVA 1084 members for their receiving the Best Newsletter Award from the FL VVA State Council.

Mike Semko: spoke about his friendship with Gunny and his need for assistance from the veterans' community. Money is needed to re-build Gunny's house.



Joe Snowberger: "Mission United" is a program where veterans can reach out to for information and referrals in all areas. This is a new and expanding program for all veterans. More information will follow.



Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm. The next meeting of the Veterans Council will be on Thursday, March 29th, 7 pm in the Health & Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View.

Future speakers:

March 29, Laura Wynn, Curriculum Specialist, Secondary Social Studies, Advanced Academic Programs, SJC School District

April 26, Thomas Richardson, Asst Director, Veterans Employment & Training Service (VETS)

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Prime Osborn Convention Center

Opening of the Gathering:

Welcome of all attendees by Fred Blaz, USMC, V4V Volunteer, followed by presentation of the colors by MCJROTC unit from Ribault HS, followed by pledge of allegiance.



Invocation given by Harry Seilers, VFW #7909. Mission Statement & Purpose of Vets 4 Vets by Fred Blaz, who then turned the meeting over to Mike Mitchell, retired USN, JU & V4V volunteer, who asked all for a moment of silence for 17 Floridians that lost their lives at Parkland HS shooting. Mike went on to emphasize, “If you know something, Say something” mental health issues need to be addressed, not ignored. He did a roll call of Veterans from the surrounding counties Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns, Volusia. Harrison Conyers was recognized by Mike Mitchell for being selected as a civilian, who was recently given a lifetime membership to VVA by Chapter # 1046 of Jacksonville. First time attendees to the gathering were welcomed and encouraged to visit and network at 40+ booths of services, programs and benefits on display. A new V4V volunteer was introduced, Nila Thompson, as Media Specialist. She will help those interested in linking to V4V. She can be reached at v4vNjax@gmail.com

Speakers:

Congressman John Rutherford: Citing accountability in the Veterans Administration, changes in the VA culture, health care, education and transition for those who are in the military now and returning to civilian life are the many concerns for representative John Rutherford.

“We have to do a better job,” said the freshman Congressman, R-Duval on Sat., Feb. 24 gathering of 270 attendees, 1st quarterly NE FL Vets4Vets mtg at the Prime Osborn Convention Center, Jacksonville, FL. Former three-term Duval County Sheriff, represents FL 4th District, encompasses Duval & St. Johns counties, spoke for nearly 20 minutes on an assortment of topics, but focused much of his address to the needs of veterans and their supporters.

He singled out VA hired a doctor that was paid \$212,000 and never saw a single vet. “I’m focused now on accountability,” Rutherford said. “We have a culture change, we are going to have to make.”

Rutherford believes VA Sec., Dr. David Shulkin, is a good man trying to do the right thing but points out that the agency needs to be held accountable and focus on mental health issues. “I know mental health destroys our communities,” Rutherford said based on his law enforcement experience. “Across the board in every social-economic level, the lack of mental health served destroys our communities.”

He stressed the point regarding the Feb. 14 shooting at Parkland HS, FL that killed 17 students & adults. Rutherford said, Broward Sheriff officers need to have their performance reviewed and they need to be held accountable.

Most of his address was aimed at the VA and that a change in culture within the organization is needed. “We have folks that go to the Gainesville (VA) facility, the hospital, do you know where the food is prepared, Lake City,” Rutherford said. “They ship it down to Gainesville. That’s what I’ve been told. I’m looking into it now. My question is, “We built a hospital with no kitchen in it?” I think what this highlights for me is the need for facility review. How are we utilizing the facilities we have; can we better utilize them to provide the funding we need to give better service to our vets, “So, accountability is the first thing that I want to focus on, the second thing is our GI bill benefits, the educational benefits and how we bring forth equity into that system, particularly between pre and post 9-11 services. Finally, we have to find a better way to transition our veterans from their military service back into the community. We have to help make you successful when you go back into the community. We owe you that.”

Rutherford also pointed out that more needs to be done for mental health, especially focusing on veterans with PTSD and dramatic brain injury. “We have to get dogs out to those veterans who are suffering from PTSD and traumatic brain injury,” Rutherford said. He closed by pledging to help all the thousands of vets in NE FL.

Submitted by: David Treffinger, E-Recon Editor

Cord Byrd District # 11; David Trotti, Marine Vet, JAG, introduced State Representative Cord Byrd who spoke about reviving the Florida Veterans Caucus, in Tallahassee. Florida state bills currently set up to help Veterans and pledged ongoing support to the Veterans community.

Eric West – Military Deals, USA Magazine...Talked about his Mil Shopping website where every purchase benefits Vets community ...Go milsaver.com. He also presented a check for \$250 to V4V-money allocated to Veterans from the shopping online web site. He intends as online shopping continues to give to Veteran organizations.

Kristle Helmuth – The Mission Continues, Fellowship Program/Community Outreach. They support community with painting, schools, buildings etc. working within community. There was a Special Presentation from Corey Shaffer, til Valhalla Project, to Kristle Helmuth who lost her, 36 yr old husband, Nathan, an Army Vet and Purple Heart recipient to CTE injury.

Corey Shaffer – Til Valhalla Project, produces and presents specialty plaques, apparel and wristbands in remembrance of fallen warriors, for family members. He was recently interviewed by a local television station and served in the USMC. His heart is to memorialize all of our fallen warriors.

Jeff Winkler – NE United Way ...Mission United empowers veterans who are adjusting to life at home to find purpose through community impact. They deploy veterans on new missions in their communities, so that their actions will inspire future generations to serve. He spoke about their role not to let any fall through the cracks. They are working to learn more about the needs of Vets in NEFL.

Dayton Warfle – 5 Stars Vets Center Updated providing homeless Vets with safe housing & food ,counseling, ages 30 - 70 yrs. A local Vets Center run by Vets and supporting Vets, all encouraged to visit & support Vets center.

Jeff Shuford- Tech for Vets - runs Vets 22 to connect vets in need . New 1st time at VA on Jefferson Street fed 120 vets, coffee, donuts & orange juice, while they waited for medical testing, some 12 hrs if fasting required and for some vets only meal of the day. Next, VA Vets Event – Feb. 22, 2018, fed 200 & 30 free military books distributed. Next, VA Vets Event - Mar. 22, 2018, partnered with a USN veteran plans to serve breakfast 100 meals. Hosting a carnival w/cotton candy & treats for all. June, 2018 –Tech for Vets working with Harrison Conyers & Bill Spann, COJ on Veteran Entrepreneur Summit at FCCJ – Free to all. Website: techforvets.com, Vets22app.com

General Announcements by fellow Veterans:

Steve Spickelmier – Duval Vets Pres. - Bring all Vets and Family - Sept. 22, 2018 - Cecil Field

Susan Hodge – NE FL Female Vets - March 11 thru 17 workshops on health Sat., Gala Clay County

Kimberly Glover – Clay County S/O- April 14, 2018 - Vets Appreciation Day Time 9:00 to 2:00 , help Vets purchase cars, and other needs

Bill Spann – Military & Veterans Affairs Office Free Tax Preparation for veterans, Mon – Thurs. - 9:30 am to 2:30 pm, Income needs to be below \$66,000 - March 11-17, Women Veterans Recognition Week, Thurs., April 22, 2018, 3rd Military Spouse Night Out, Vets Memory Service June 23 - Vets bring your DD-214 & Health Records

Hellena Pugh – Female Vets March 16 & 17th Summit on the March 16th, 5K walk for female Vets on the 17th Orange Park Town Hall

David Seamons - Fallen Heroes - April 07 - Keystone Heights & Bradford HS, Golf - Event on April 14th

Final Activities: 50/50 drawing winner \$155.00

Attendance 270

The Atlantic Coast Young Marines

About the Young Marines

Who We Are

The Young Marines is a youth education and service program for boys and girls, ages 8 through completion of high school. The Young Marines promotes the mental, moral, and physical development of its members. The program focuses on character building, leadership, and promotes a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. The Young Marines is the focal point for the U.S. Marine Corps' Youth Drug Demand Reduction efforts.



Membership

The Young Marines is open to all youth ages 8 through completion of high school. The only membership requirement is that the youth must be in good standing at school. Since the Young Marines' humble beginnings, in 1958, with one unit and a handful of boys, the organization has grown to over 300 units with 10,000 youth and 3,000 adult volunteers in 46 states, the District of Columbia, and Germany, Japan, and affiliates in a host of other countries.

Our Volunteers

Young Marines units are community-based programs lead by dedicated adult volunteers. Many of these volunteers are former, retired, active duty, or reserve Marines who believe passionately that the values they learned as Marines had a positive affect on them. It is through these caring adults that Young Marines learn the inner values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Adult volunteers are individually screened by the National Headquarters based on background information and recommendations provided with each person's registration.

Training

Upon joining a local Young Marines unit, youth undergo a 26-hour orientation program, generally spread out over several weekly meetings. This orientation program is affectionately called "Boot Camp." The youth learn general subjects such as history, customs and courtesies, close order drill, physical fitness, and military rank structure. After graduating from

Young Marines "Boot Camp", the youth have the opportunity to learn more new skills, earn rank, wear the Young Marines uniform and work toward ribbon awards. Young Marines earn ribbons for achievement in areas such as leadership, community service, swimming, academic excellence, first aid, and drug resistance education.

Awards

The Young Marines is the proud four-time recipient of the Department of Defense's Fulcrum Shield Award for Excellence in Youth Anti-Drug Programs. The award recognizes military-affiliated youth organizations around the world that have made concerted efforts at spreading anti-drug messages throughout their communities. The first award was presented to the Young Marines National Headquarters and the second to the Bakersfield Young Marines unit in California.

Young Marines Veterans Appreciation Week

For one week in November each year, Young Marines units across the country celebrate Young Marines Veterans Appreciation Week (YMVAW). The purpose of the campaign is to challenge our Young Marines to dedicate some of their time to help our nation's veterans and to demonstrate, through their actions, their sincere appreciation for our veterans' service to our country. Unit projects include sending thank you cards to hospitalized veterans, cleaning up a disabled veterans yard, visiting veterans in the hospital, or simply setting up a community function to socialize with local veterans.

Mission

The mission of the Young Marines is to positively impact America's future by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurtures and develops its members into responsible citizens who enjoy and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

Motto

Strengthening the lives of America's youth

Young Marine Obligation

From this day forward, I sincerely promise, I will set an example for all other youth to follow and I shall never do anything that would bring disgrace or dishonor upon my God, my Country and its flag, my parents, myself or the Young Marines. These I will honor and re-

spect in a manner that will reflect credit upon them and myself. Semper Fidelis.

Young Marine Creed

1. Obey my parents and all others in charge of me whether young or old.
2. Keep myself neat at all times without other people telling me to.
3. Keep myself clean in mind by attending the church of my faith.
4. Keep my mind alert to learn in school, at home, or at play.
5. Remember having self-discipline will enable me to control my body and mind in case of an emergency.

National Programs

During the summer months, Young Marines have the opportunity to attend the Young Marines National Summer Programs of: Adventures, Challenges, Encampments, and Schools (SPACES). Schools consist of leadership courses. Adventures, have a historical emphasis and are designed with the younger child in mind. In contrast, older Young Marines can participate in Challenges. Challenges consist of training in areas such as survival skills, wilderness training, and waterbased activities. Young Marine Encampments provide the opportunity for Young Marines of all ages to gather together and train as a large unit of up to 700 youth at a time. Over 3,000 Young Marines participate in the SPACES programs each year.

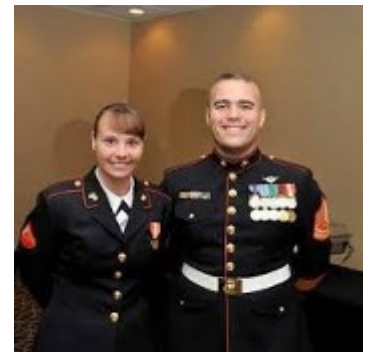
R. Lee Ermey, Official Celebrity Spokesperson

The Young Marines are honored to have R. Lee Ermey as their official celebrity spokesperson. Mr. Ermey garnered worldwide acclaim for his portrayal of Drill Instructor Gunnery Sergeant Hartman in Stanley Kubrick's film, Full Metal Jacket (1987). Ermey is the host of the History Channel's hit show, Mail Call.

Chester, The Official Mascot

Chester, the puppy bulldog, is the Young Marines official mascot. Chester enjoys all the benefits of Young Marines membership such as the opportunity to earn rank and ribbons, wear the Young Marines uniform, and a free subscription to the Young Marines Esprit magazine. Chester sometimes even makes guest appearances at unit meetings, graduations, and training conferences

Photo on right Kimberly Gibbons and her husband, both former Marines, lead the Atlantic Coast Young Marines of Jacksonville.



Inaugural

2018  **Cecil Field
POW*MIA
MEMORIAL** **GOLF**

TOURNAMENT

**MON
APR 9
2018**



St. Johns Golf & Country Club
219 St. Johns Golf Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32092

Monday, April 9, 2018
"National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day"

Registration/Warm-up/Pre-Event	11:45am - 12:45pm
Shot Gun Start	1:00 pm
BBQ Dinner/Awards Ceremony/Raffle	5:00 – 6:30 pm

Raffle tickets available throughout the day. Winners will be announced at the conclusion of the award ceremony.

All proceeds benefit **Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc.**

CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL IS A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION – REGISTRATION NUMBER: CH51569. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 800 435 7352, WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL IS AN IRS 501(C)(3), PUBLIC CHARITY. ID# 31954. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE.

**Deadline to Register*:
April 4, 2018**

Sponsorship Packages and Player Registration Forms attached, or register online at:
www.powmiamemorial.org

Follow the 2018 Golf Tournament Event from our Facebook page:



Inaugural

2018



**Cecil Field
POW★MIA
MEMORIAL**

GOLF

TOURNAMENT

HOLE SPONSOR PACKAGES AND PLAYER FEES

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| PLATINUM SPONSOR | \$2500 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listed as Platinum Sponsor on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hole Sponsor Signage – Tournament Program – Facebook Event Page – Website with link to sponsor’s website • Recognition at Tournament Award Ceremony • Up to Eight (8) player entries | |
| GOLD SPONSOR | \$1500 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listed as Gold Sponsor on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hole Sponsor Signage – Tournament Program – Facebook Event Page – Website with link to sponsor’s website • Up to Six (6) player entries | |
| SILVER SPONSOR | \$800 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listed as Silver Sponsor on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hole Sponsor Signage – Tournament Program – Facebook Event Page – Website with link to sponsor’s website • Up to Four (4) player entries | |

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| SINGLE PLAYER FEE | \$150 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tournament Entry – Tournament Polo Shirt – Green, Cart, and Pro Fee – BBQ Dinner | |

HOLE SPONSOR FORM AND PLAYER REGISTRATION FORM ATTACHED.

CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL IS A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION – REGISTRATION NUMBER: CH51569. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 800 438 7352, WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL IS AN IRS 501(C)(3), PUBLIC CHARITY. ID# 31954. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE.

**INAUGURAL CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL
2018 GOLF TOURNAMENT**

HOLE SPONSORSHIP & INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FORM

Hole Sponsor Information

Company Name _____ Company Phone (____) _____
Company Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Contact Name _____
Contact Phone _____ Email _____

Sponsorship Level:

- Platinum Sponsor (\$2500) Silver Sponsor (\$800)
 Gold Sponsor (\$1500)

Donations:

- Separate donation in support of Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial \$ _____
-

Important Sponsorship Information:

1. Payment of sponsorship donation or player registration fee(s) can be done online at powmiamemorial.org or mail check payable to **"Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc."** to:

**ATTN: 2018 Golf Tournament
Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc.
6112 New World Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32221**
 2. For those sponsorship levels that include golf participation, please register each golfer by: **Wednesday, April 2nd**
-

Player 1 Name _____ Phone (____) _____
Email Address _____ Shirt Size _____
Player 2 Name _____ Phone (____) _____
Email Address _____ Shirt Size _____
Player 3 Name _____ Phone (____) _____
Email Address _____ Shirt Size _____
Player 4 Name _____ Phone (____) _____
Email Address _____ Shirt Size _____

****Additional players may be added on a separate sheet.***

The value of recognizing Vietnam Veterans 50 years later

Posted in [Honoring Vets](#) by [VAntage Point Contributor](#)

As one of more than nine million Veterans who served in Vietnam and other parts of the world during the Vietnam era from 1955-75, I am especially grateful that we are now being officially recognized and thanked for our service. Today, a [coordinated nationwide campaign](#) is being led by the Department of Defense and supported by VA as part of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration Program. For those of us who served when called upon then, it has been a long time coming.

The recognition is being carried out through a series of events nationwide at which Vietnam Veterans – and Vietnam-era Veterans – are being presented with an official Vietnam lapel pin by top government and military officials. A national event will take place at the Vietnam Memorial in Washington on March 29. In fact, President Donald Trump has [signed a proclamation](#) that declaring this date as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

The amazing impact of a simple “thank you for your service” can be seen by the emotional expression on their faces when Vietnam Veterans receive their special pins at these ceremonies – often in the presence of family members and other Veterans.

Like most Vietnam Veterans, I returned home from the War to a somewhat hostile political environment in the United States. The impact of the anti-War protests across the nation in the late 1960s and early 1970s fostered an anti-Vietnam Veteran atmosphere here at home that lasted for nearly 20 years after the war ended.

Now, I am glad to say, things have changed for the better and are continuing to evolve. The building of the Vietnam Memorial has helped bring about an atmosphere of healing. And there now are a host of counseling programs available for Veterans – and active duty service members. VA has been a leader in the treatment of PTSD and also has implemented [high-profile suicide prevention line](#) – around the clock program that has documented success in preventing thousands of possible suicides by Veterans and others. (You can call the Veterans Crisis Line if you or a Veteran you know is in crisis. Dial 1-800-273-8255 and press 1).

At VA we are committed to providing much needed counseling for Vietnam Veterans – indeed, for all Veterans. VA’s [Make the Connection web page](#) provides real stories from Veterans about issues they have encountered and how they have dealt with them.

And more is being done to reach out to all Veterans to help them find out about VA benefits and services – a good reference for that can be found on <http://explore.va.gov>

Our [Vet Centers](#) make ongoing group counseling available to those Veterans in remote areas nationwide. In pointing these resources out, this is not to say, however, that problems do not exist; they do, but I am pointing out that comprehensive efforts are now under way to address these issues.

As a result, I believe the real lasting legacy of Vietnam is that never again should America’s soldiers return home to find the people holding them in disdain for fighting for their country. Separating the service member, soldier and Veteran from the politics of the war is the true, lasting legacy of Vietnam. And it starts with a much appreciated “thank you for your service.”

By Bill Outlaw served as a security policeman in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed in Vietnam in 1970 at Pleiku and Phan Rang U.S. Air Force bases. He also works at VA’s Veterans Health Administration and is the VHA representative on the Vietnam Commemoration Commission.

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Navy to Navy Homes LLC
10605 Theresa Drive, Suite 5
Jacksonville, FL 32246
Office: 904-900-4776



Vietnam Helicopter Pilot and Crewmember Monument Dedication Ceremony

Wednesday, April 18, 2018
4:00 p.m.

Arlington National Cemetery Section 35

(Adjacent to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier)

Alternate location in case of rain:

Women in Military Service for America Memorial
Memorial Ave & Schley Dr., Arlington, VA

The Vietnam Helicopter Pilot and Crewmember Monument is the fulfillment of efforts commenced in the spring of 2014-by the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association (VHPA) to place a suitable national memorial honoring the sacrifice of all military helicopter crews who perished in the Vietnam War; appropriately remembered as "the Helicopter War."

The monument complements a living tree donated to ANC to honor rotary-wing casualties, and is the only monument known to exist that honors all helicopter casualties from all branches lost in the Vietnam War.



Welcome to the official 2018 NAS Jax Air Show event.

The NAS Jax Air Show, Birthplace of the Blue Angels, will be October 27 - 28, 2018 aboard NAS Jacksonville. Admission, parking and the Kids Zone is FREE.

At the NAS Jax Air Show you will witness thrills like never before from a variety of military and civilian demonstrations. The grand finale will be the Navy's flight demonstration team: The Blue Angels.

While you are at the show, enjoy military and civilian aircraft displays, shop at novelty, food and beverage booths, or head to the free Kids Zone for games and activities for all ages. While there will be 2 ATMs onsite, it is highly recommended that you bring cash with you.

Save the date! More details to come.

Visit our website: <http://www.nasjaxairshow.com>

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE
2018 NAS JAX AIR SHOW!

OCTOBER 27 - 28, 2018

FREE ADMISSION, PARKING & KIDS ZONE



CAREGIVER COALITION OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA 2018 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Throughout the year, the Caregiver Coalition of Northeast Florida hosts a series of free, public events that offer First Coast caregivers a time to network, relax and learn about resources from our valued community partners. Most programs include complimentary meals and respite care by request for loved ones.



HERE'S OUR LINEUP FOR 2018:

"CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER" CONFERENCE

Saturday, February 24, 2018 • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Ramada Inn Mandarin
3130 Hartley Road
Jacksonville, FL 32257

CAREGIVER EXPO 2018

Saturday, April 14, 2018 • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
EverBank Field US Assure Club East
1 EverBank Field Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32202

"CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER" CONFERENCE

Saturday, June 16, 2018 • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Mary Singleton Senior Center
150 East First St.
Jacksonville, FL 32206

"CARING FOR THE MILITARY/VETERAN CAREGIVER" CONFERENCE

Friday, Sept. 21, 2018 • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
WJCT Public Broadcasting
100 Festival Park Ave.
Jacksonville, FL 32202



Visit MyCaregiverConnection.org throughout the year for the latest news and event info!

For more information, or to participate as a sponsor or exhibitor, contact Toula Wootan at Community Hospice & Palliative Care: 904.407.6211 or twootan@communityhospice.com.

Caregiver Coalition of Northeast Florida Partners: Community Hospice & Palliative Care; AARP®; Aging True Community Senior Services; Alzheimer's Association, Central and North Florida Chapter; Area Councils on Aging; Baptist AgeWell Center for Senior Health; Brooks Rehabilitation; City of Jacksonville, Senior Services Division; ElderSource; Jewish Family & Community Services; Mayo Clinic Florida; YMCA of Florida's First Coast



**2nd Annual
Clay County Veterans
APPRECIATION DAY
Thrasher-Horne Center
Saturday, April 14, 2018
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
FREE ADMISSION**

- ★ VA Representatives & Informational Booths
 - ★ Legal Service
 - ★ Clay County Cruzers Car & Legion Riders Motorcycle Display
 - ★ Universities & Colleges
 - ★ U.S. Small Business Administration
 - ★ All Day Free Kids Activities
 - ★ Vendors & Food Trucks
 - ★ Employers
 - ★ Community Booths
 - ★ Home & Healthcare Booths
 - ★ Guest Speakers
 - ★ Military & Construction Vehicles on Display
 - ★ Clay County High Schools NJROTC
 - ★ Military Recruiters
- Entertainment and Much More!

Special Appearance By:

THE 501ST LEGION



Jacksonville Jaguars Cheerleaders



View updates at:

claycountygov.com/departments/veterans-services/annual-veterans-appreciation-event

Florida National Guard Foundation

Operation Finally Home



Conquistador Patriot Open



Honored Guest Iraqi Veteran
J. R. Martinez

PROCEEDS TO HELP BUILD A MORTGAGE FREE HOME FOR A VET

MAY 18TH FRIDAY — **Slammer & Squire World Golf Village**

SHOTGUN START 8:30 AM

HELP US HONOR OUR FALLEN HEROES BY SPONSORING A HOLE

Register at www.patriotopen.com

email patriotopen@gmail.com





Golfer Registration

\$129.00 for individual/ \$119.00 per 4 man team

Player 1:

Name _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Handicap: _____

Player 2

Name _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Handicap: _____

Player 3:

Name _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Handicap: _____

Player 4

Name _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Handicap: _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

My check for \$_____ is enclosed

Pay by Credit Card Visa Mastercard Card Number: _____

Exp date: _____ CSV Code: _____ Billing Zip Code _____

EMAIL: patriotopen@gmail.com for credit cards or make check payable to FLNG Foundation, P.O. Box 717, St. Augustine, FL 32085-0717



MILITARY MUSEUM OF NORTH FLORIDA

SPONSORING



ALL CREATIONS INTERTRIBAL *First Annual Spring Pow Wow*

April 26th through April 29th, 2018

Drum: Southern Outlaw
Head Man: Harley McGahee
Head Woman: Kaye Taylor
MC: Jamie Nemeth
AD: Tony "Free Spirit" Young

*All Guest Drums are Welcome

**Children's Activities, Demonstrations,
Museum Relics, Storytellers, Flute Players,
and Many Traders with Arts, Crafts,
Supplies and items for every budget.**

FREE ADMISSION FREE PARKING FREE TENT CAMPING

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

This schedule is an estimate as we usually run on "Indian Time"

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

9am.....Flag Raising & School Field Trips Begin
1pm-5pm.....Social Dancing & Cultural Activities
7pm (FRIDAY).....Grand Entry & Intertribal Dancing
After Dancing (FRIDAY).....Trade Blanket

SATURDAY

9am.....Traders Open
4pm-5pm.....Social Dancing & Cultural Activities
7pm.....Grand Entry, Veterans & Memorial Songs,
Intertribal Dancing
After Dancing.....Moonlight Auction

SUNDAY

10am.....Traders Open
4pm-5pm.....Social Dancing & Cultural Activities
7pm.....Grand Entry, Veterans & Memorial Songs,
Intertribal Dancing
After Dancing.....Moonlight Auction



ALL CREATIONS POW WOW 2018

NO DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR FIRARMS

**SORRY-NO PETS ALLOWED DUE TO
INSURANCE RESTRICTIONS**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

FACEBOOK: ALL CREATIONS INTERTRIBAL POW WOW

CONTACT INFORMATION

WILLIAM MOONWOLF MEEKS: (904) 531-6544

WILLIAMMEEKS33@YAHOO.COM

TAMMY SHADOW WOMAN MEEKS: (904) 325-5561

1SHADOWWOMAN@ATT.NET



**Military Museum
of
North Florida**

Chris Mayer

Executive Director
(904) 616-7218

1 Bunker Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

Honoring Those Who Serve

The USS Juneau has been found!!!

Billionaire Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen has announced the discovery of yet another historic World War II vessel.

The USS Juneau – the Navy’s storied Atlanta-class light cruiser – was found recently by the expedition crew of Research Vessel Petrel. The ship was resting on the ocean floor off the Solomon Islands, more than two miles below the surface.



The Juneau became a symbol of wartime sacrifice after it was sunk by a Japanese torpedo during the Battle of Guadalcanal in 1942. Nearly 690 sailors – including five Iowa brothers known as “The Sullivans” – went down with the ship.

Two Navy ships, including an active guided-missile destroyer, have been named in the brothers’ honor.

The ship was first identified Saturday by the R/V Petrel’s autonomous underwater vehicle, according to a statement from Paul Allen. The crew deployed its remotely operated underwater vehicle the next day and recorded the first images of the wreckage.

“We certainly didn’t plan to find the Juneau on St. Patrick’s Day. The variables of these searches are just too great,” Robert Kraft, director of subsea operations for Paul Allen, said in the statement. “But finding the USS Juneau on Saint Patrick’s Day is an unexpected coincidence to the Sullivan brothers and all the service members who were lost 76 years ago.”

Naval Surface Forces commander Vice Adm. Rich Brown, who once helmed the USS The Sullivans, said he was excited to hear that Allen’s team was able to find the cruiser.

“The story of the USS Juneau crew and Sullivan brothers epitomize the service and sacrifice of our nation’s greatest generation,” he said in the statement.



GratitudeAmerica



MILITARY SUPPORT RETREAT

at Marineland, Florida

April 12th at 5:30pm – April 15th at 3:00pm

A RETREAT FOR POST 9-11 NORTHEAST FLORIDA AND SOUTHEAST GEORGIA
MILITARY/VETERANS AND THEIR PRIMARY SUPPORT PERSON

ACTIVE DUTY ★ RETIRED ★ NATIONAL GUARD & RESERVE ★ ALL SERVICE BRANCHES

★ RESTORATION ★ RECREATION ★ RELAXATION ★

*Strengthen and restore connections, enjoy the natural beauty of Amelia Island,
be inspired by fun outdoor activities, learn about available support resources,
and relax while discovering post-deployment strategies.*

★ Small, friendly group setting ★

★ All accommodations, food, and activities are provided free of charge ★

★ Facilitated by Vets, VA/DoD experts, and Community Nonprofit Support Organizations ★

Please note: Must be 18 to attend and no childcare is not provided.



TO LEARN MORE AND TO APPLY VISIT: GRATITUDEAMERICA.ORG/RETREATS

CONTACT INFO: MICHAEL ANTHONY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

912-674-0332 OR MICHAEL@GRATITUDEAMERICA.ORG

V.F.W. Post 2391

Golf Tournament

20th Annual

at

**The St. Augustine
Shores Golf Club
April 21st . 2018**



Where: The Shores, 707 Shores Blvd. St Augustine
When: Saturday April 21, 2018. 7:00 AM Signup
8:30 AM Shotgun Start.

Player Fee: \$50 Per Player, \$200 Per Team
(includes 3 mulligans/player)

Hole Sponsor Fee: \$50

Corporate Sponsor Fee: \$100

Coffee & Donuts will be served.

Prizes & Gifts

Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place

- Prize for Longest Drive (men & women)
- Prize for Closest to Pin (front & back nine)
- Putting Contest
- Prizes Duffer Score (highest)
- Other Prizes to be raffled off and Lunch held at VFW Post



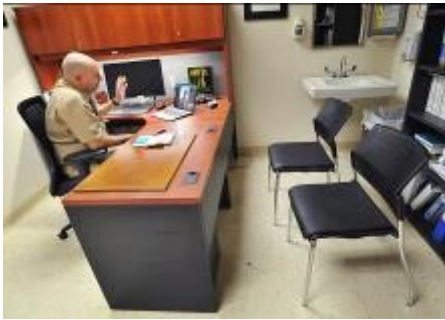
For Further Information Contact:

Anne Rendall (904) 460-9345 or Debbie Tilley (904) 460-9345

Proceeds to Sponsor Youth Activities & Charities

From the FL Times Union By Joe Daraskevich

Pilot Program at Naval Hospital allows virtual visits for patients



Some patients at Naval Hospital Jacksonville are getting the medical attention they need without stepping foot in a doctor's office.

Instead of missing work and fighting traffic to see a physician, they can now have face-to-face meetings with doctors through their phones, tablets and computers.

The hospital is conducting a pilot program for the Navy that makes virtual visits a reality using a new application called Navy Care. It's as easy as downloading the application on a device and registering through the hospital. Right now it's limited to specific areas of care; and it's also in the early stages of the roll out.

"Gone are the days when the doctor has to sit in the room with you," said Capt. David Collins, commanding officer at the hospital.

Of course you can't treat every condition without a physical interaction with a patient, he said, but it makes things a lot easier for many routine appointments.

He said a priority at the hospital is keeping patients on the job — especially when they are on active duty. The new program is accomplishing that.

"It really opens up a world of opportunities so we can really provide the timely care for our patients wherever they are," said Cmdr. Michael Kaplan, an allergy and immunology physician at the hospital.

A patient was recently suffering from hives and needed Kaplan's opinion. The problem was Kaplan works out of Jacksonville and the patient was assigned to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

Instead of flying to Jacksonville and staying a night in a hotel just to find out

more about hives, Kaplan suggested a virtual visit.

He said one nice thing about conducting appointments through Navy Care is it gives the doctor a chance to see the patient's home environment. Often times it's hard to explain the details of a diet, but with a virtual visit the doctor can ask a patient to show what kind of food is in the pantry.

When Kaplan conducted the consultation with the patient in Cuba, it gave him another variable to think about: A cat walked by the camera at one point.

Kaplan asked when the patient got the cat and if it had any correlation to when the hives started.

It turned out the cat wasn't causing the problem, Kaplan said, but it's something that might not have come up during an office visit.

Another patient had a rash on his face while stationed in Kuwait. Kaplan said that patient wasn't registered with Navy Care so it took four days of going back and forth with physicians to determine what was wrong.

Kaplan said he could have solved the problem in five minutes with a virtual visit. The rash was directly under the patient's eyes, so when he noticed that he could have asked via computer whether the patient wears goggles.

That ended up being the problem, but the time-saving tool wasn't available yet.

"This is the opportunity where you can potentially intervene right then and there," Kaplan said.

The Jacksonville facility is offering Navy Care for patients in the following programs: allergy, behavioral health, clinical pharmacy, diabetes wellness, family medicine, fitness enhancement, neurology, sleep medicine, nutrition, orthopedics, podiatry, pediatrics and urology.

"The first doctor that used it was a neurologist upstairs, and as he finished up he said 'I want all my patients consented for this because it was fantastic,'"

Collins said.

He said the reaction from the staff has been just as positive. The doctors can see more patients in less time, and patients are getting back to work much quicker.

It took time to roll out the new tool because organizers had to figure out the most important patient needs from providers, and they needed to make sure patient privacy wouldn't be jeopardized, said Lt. Cmdr. Alesha Egts, the clinical lead coordinator for the project.

She said the transmission is so secure that it's no different than being in front of a physician in person.

"People's health information is protected at the same level that the nuclear keys are protected, and that makes some things like this difficult," Collins said.

Egts said they've had some patients download the Navy Care application expecting to be able to use it right away. That's not the case, she said.

The patients have to discuss the program with their provider before they can register, Egts said.

She said a significant percentage of the people in the Navy are younger than 25 years old, so they've grown up with cell phones in their hands. This is something they've been asking for, and now Jacksonville is the first place in the Navy offering the service.

Collins said he's been surprised by some of the older patients who have started using Navy Care. They don't like sitting in traffic any more than the active-duty patients, he said, so this is saving everyone time.

Joe Daraskevich: (904) 359-4308



**5th District Annual Picnic
Hosted by Legion Post 283
Saturday, April 21, 2018 8am-Till...**

KIDS FISHING TOURNAMENT



**Ages 4 through 12 years old
9am to 11am**

**Prizes to be Awarded
Kids fun & games afterwards**



Chip, Toss & Shoot Event

"Chip" Golf Balls into floating circle in the pond

"Toss" Horseshoe Tournament

"Shoot" Turkey Shoot with Pellet Gun
Three 50/50 Pots, Winner Gets Half



**Come enjoy the great outdoors,
outside bar, grilled burgers, hot dogs,
sausage dogs, chicken skewers
and all the fixins!**

**for more info go to:
www.al5thdistrictfl.org/**





VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

ROYAL ST AUGUSTINE GOLF AND COUNTY CLUB
25 MAY 2018

- Who: VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA LEO C. CHASE JR CHAPTER 1084
- Where: 301 ROYAL SAINT AUGUSTINE PKWY, ST AUGUSTINE, FL 32084
- When: FRIDAY, 25 MAY 2018: Registration: **0700** Shotgun start: **0830**
- Sign-Up: REGISTRATION VIA TBD WEBSITE OR BY CHECK(See page 2): Request entry NLT 21 MAY 2018. Sign-up limited to first 112 applicants.
- Entry Fee: **\$100 per person.** Includes green fees, carts, lunch, beverages, and prizes.
- Format/Prizes: 4-PERSON SCRAMBLE. PRIZES FOR: LOWEST TEAM SCORES, CLOSEST TO PIN, LONGEST DRIVE, LONGEST PUTT, AND A \$10,000 HOLE-IN-ONE CONTEST.

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO BENEFIT OUR VETERANS MOST IN NEED.

About the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Chapter 1084: VVA Chapter 1084 is a 501(c) (19) Corporation with 86 members, a subset of the Florida State Council (4,500 members), under the umbrella of the National VVA with a membership of 82,000. An important part of VVA Chapter 1084's purpose is to give back to our veterans and our community. We are involved in many ongoing, seasonal and special programs that our VVA and AAVA members give their time, talent and treasure. Although we are all Vietnam Veterans, we do not limit our volunteer time and available funds to our own generation of veterans. The guiding principle of the VVA is *“Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.”*

Gold Corporate Sponsor:

\$2000, Includes Two Foursomes,
Hole Sponsorship, and
Recognition on Banners

Silver Corporate Sponsor

\$1500, Includes Foursome
Hole Sponsorship, and
Recognition on Banners

Putting Contest Sponsor: \$500

Long Drive Sponsor: \$500

Closest to the Pin Sponsor: \$500

Pin flag \$300

Hole Sign \$150

..... **REGISTRATION FORM**

VVA LEO C CHASE JR CHAPTER 1084 TOURNAMENT '18

TEAM MEMBER NAMES

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

REGISTER ONLINE AT **TBD.COM** (JEFF KLAUK, PERFECT GOLF EVENT)

OR, MAKE CHECKS OUT TO "VVA-1084" AND MAIL PAYMENT TO:

VVA-1084
P.O. BOX 860151
ST AUGUSTINE, FL 32086

WARBIRD AIRSHOW

Saturday, April 6,7,8, 2018 we have been given permission to have a Membership Drive and Buddy Poppy Campaign at the 2018 Space Coast Air Show at the Regional Airport in Titusville.

This event drew over 58,000 people according to last years gate attendance. Any post wishing to participate please let me know. This is a great opportunity to represent the VFW at the largest event in Florida that weekend.

2018 SPACE COAST WARBIRD AIRSHOW
APRIL 6, 7 & 8
SPACE COAST REGIONAL AIRPORT
TITUSVILLE • FLORIDA

FRIDAY
Afternoon & Night Shows
Ending with Giant Fireworks
Gates Open 12 Noon

SAT & SUN
Air-to-Air Combat
All-Day Fun on the Grounds
Gates Open 8:30a

AEROBATICS JET DEMOS FIGHTER & BOMBER FLIGHTS

BE AMAZED!

—FEATURING—
TORA! TORA! TORA!
BOMBING INSIDE WHO STRIPPED THE PACIFIC THEATER
1941-1945

Vintage Warbirds
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Simulated Bombing & Strafing
Military Reenactments
Static Displays

PRESENTED BY
WARBIRD MUSEUM
VALIANT AIR COMMAND

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Purchase Advance Tickets at Discount Prices NOW!

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE WARBIRD AIR MUSEUM

For your Safety: No Coolers • No Pets • No Large Umbrellas • No Firearms

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard Presents:
Florida's 31th Annual
Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion
The Nation's Largest Veterans Reunion
Supported by the Vietnam and All Veterans of Florida, Inc. - VVOF.org
April 19th – April 22nd

Additionally, come visit The Vietnam Traveling Memorial WALL April 15- April 22

LIVE MUSIC
FOOD & DRINKS
MILITARY VENDORS
MILITARY DISPLAYS
POW / MIA CEREMONIES
THE LAST PATROL
THE MOVING TRIBUTE



Wall Escort April 15, 2018 Leave at 10am
Eastern Florida State College Cocoa Campus
Also visit the Reunion Web Page at:
floridaveteransreunion.com

Wickham Park
321-255-4307 - Melbourne, FL
Take I-95 to Exit 191 or old Exit 73
No Coolers, Glass or Pets allowed
in the Reunion Area

Per Wickham Park: Golf Carts Permitted
For the Handicapped Only And Must
Abide By FL Highway Laws

Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall
www.travelingwall.us
Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc
PO Box 237225

Cocoa, FL 32923-7225



Call For Info
321-408-2698
321-652-4185
Vendor call 321-652-4185
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RaRusso1962@gmail.com
Candy1540@yahoo.com
Club Escort Lineup Info.
vvbreunionescort@gmail.com



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

Location: Marsh Creek Country Club

169 Marshside Drive, St. Augustine, FL 32080

Format: 4 Person Captain's Choice

Field: First 36 Teams



Entry Fee: \$80.00 per player (Includes Green Fees, Cart, Lunch & Prizes)

Prizes For: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd 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 (whether paying by check or credit card) TO:

Ms. Natasha Huertas, C/O AUSA GOLF TOURNAMENT,

P.O BOX 3883, ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32085-3883. Phone (904) 682-4436.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO FIRST MILITIA CHAPTER - AUSA or

To purchase online visit <https://squareup.com/market/first-militia-chapter-ausa>

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



FIRST MILITIA CHAPTER
P.O. Box 3883
St. Augustine, Florida 32085-3883

1 Nov. 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

Maybe you've seen a soldier in uniform and had the impulse to say thanks. Maybe you know how it feels to wear that uniform. Either way, soldiers and/or their families need your support.

Please consider partnering with the First Militia Chapter (FMC) of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA). We give the *"Voice for the Army, Support for the Soldier"* in Northeast Florida. Our members, with help from businesses like yours, provide programs that bolster the U.S. Army, soldiers, and their families. Here are a few of the ways:

- Help fund departure and welcome home ceremonies for our units
- Supply emergency financial assistance to families
- Present scholarships to deserving chapter applicants
- Provide senior officer and NCO cadre for Junior ROTC
- Award special recognition for the Florida Army National Guard Soldier and NCO of the Year
- Meet quarterly to hear notable leaders, such as members of the U.S. Congress, and bring our issues before them
- Sustain a young professionals group within our chapter

None of this could happen without help from businesses like yours. But in the past, the only way to become involved was as a sponsor for our annual golf tournament fundraiser.

Now we are opening more opportunities through recognition at our quarterly dinners, where you can describe your business to our members and the dignitaries who speak. Sponsors are also acknowledged in our newsletter, website, and social media. Golf tournament sponsors are also recognized with hole-sponsor signs at the tournament set for April 9th, 2018 at Marsh Creek Country Club.

More information and options to help are included. If you have a specific question, please contact LTC Vernon Dohmann at 904-823-0191 or vernon.j.dohmann.mil@mail.mil

I hope you will join us in continuing the good things we do for soldiers, their families, and the mightiest fighting force in the world. Our noble goal, and hopefully yours, is to help keep it that way. Please let us count on your support.

Sincerely,

Mike Canzoneri
Brigadier General, US Army
President, First Militia Chapter



FIRST MILITIA CHAPTER

Association of the United States Army

Sponsorship Form

Sponsorship Level (Choose from accompanying list):

_____ **Platinum Sponsor: \$2,000 Donation**

_____ **Gold Sponsor: \$1,000 Donation**

_____ **Silver Sponsor: \$500 Donation**

_____ **Bronze Sponsor: \$250 Donation**

Sponsor Information:

Corporate/Individual Name(s) for Donation Recognition:

Mailing Address: _____

Sponsor Point of Contact: _____

POC Phone Number: _____

POC Email: _____

Please forward this form to: **First Militia Chapter (AUSA) ATTN: Natasha M. Huertas**
P.O. Box 3883
St. Augustine, Florida 32085-3883
Checks payable to **"First Militia Chapter – AUSA"**
Register Online at: <http://mkt.com/first-militia-chapter-ausa>



COMMUNITY HOSPICE
VETERANS PARTNERSHIP

Salute Our Heroes in Their Final Days: Support Flags & Pins for Veterans in Hospice Care

Honor our local veterans in hospice care with a dignified tradition when you support funding for flags and pins through Community Hospice & Palliative Care.

Since 2008, the Jacksonville-based organization has presented all veterans admitted to its hospice program with a commemorative pin to honor their service, as well as a certificate of appreciation. For veterans who get care at one of our eight inpatient centers, staff and volunteers erect the flag of the service branch in which they served outside their rooms. Flags are then presented to veterans' families following the death.



The need for funding is great as up to 25 percent of patients who receive hospice care at Community Hospice & Palliative Care are veterans. The nonprofit organization, which provides hospice care to nearly 1,300 patients each day, raises funds through individual support and community organizations who believe in serving those who have served our country so honorably.

If you or your organization would like to support our Flags & Pins Initiative and honor our warriors one last time, please contact

Toula Wootan, director of community programs at Community Hospice & Palliative Care, at 904.407.6211 or twootan@communityhospice.com.

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County is proud to announce that it has modernized its website and created a new Facebook page.



We are inviting all veterans to visit our website at:

NEW <http://www.veteranscouncilsjc.org>

The Veterans Council will post items of interest to all veterans, post pictures, articles, flyers, events, etc. We will post our meetings dates and keep you informed about events at the Jacksonville and St. Augustine National Cemeteries.

Please join our group on Facebook at:
VeteransCouncilofStJohnsCounty,FL

Please select **Join the Group** to become a member

Once you have joined the Veterans Council Facebook group you will be able to post your meetings, pictures, articles, fund raisers, etc. It will be your common site to go to and see what's happening.

The website and Facebook page were updated and created so that there would be a central place to list all veterans activities in NE FL.

You may have noticed the Veterans Council's new logo, it was created by Roy Havekost and his web design company PageAuthors. The VC strongly recommends that you contact Roy, 904-287-6909, if you or your vet group wants to create a website or Facebook page.

NEW INFO: Ride in comfort to your appointments at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville.



The van is provided by the Disabled Veterans Chapter 6, and leaves no later than 6AM from the new VA Clinic location at 195 Southpark Blvd. The corner of Southpark and Old Moultrie Road.

To schedule your seat please contact the VA Clinic at 904-823-2954 and ask for Veteran Van Scheduling.



**SURVIVOR
OUTREACH SERVICES**

Survivor Outreach Offers Free Services to
Surviving Spouses and Family Members of Military Retirees

Contact Keith Ham

Survivor Outreach Services Support Coordinator, HRCI Contractor
310 Charlotte Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084
Office: 904-823-0157 Cell: 904-472-7689
Email: keith.e.ham.ctr@mail.mil

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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

Please send to: mrothfeld@anyveteran.org



**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 Thursday of the month at 7 pm.**

***The Veterans Council will meet at the St.
Johns County Health & Human Services
Building, 200 San Sebastian View
Muscovy Room, 1st floor***

**Veterans Service Office
200 San Sebastian View, Suite 1400
St. Augustine, FL 32084**

(physical location)

*The VSO Office is located in the St. Johns County Health and
Human Services Building.*

*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, SR VSO
Rick Rees, Assistant VSO
Tammy Shirley, Assistant VSO*

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.