



VILLAGES HONOR FLIGHT NEWSLETTER

November, 2016

www.VillagesHonorFlight.Org

Phone: 352-432-1382

*Serving the Florida Counties of Lake, Marion,
Sumter, Citrus and Hernando*

NEXT CLUB MEETING. The Villages Honor Flight club will meet on Monday, 14-Nov-2016 at 12:30pm at the Colony Cottage Recreation Center in The Villages, FL (we always meet on the 2nd Monday of each month so mark your calendars in advance).

Our guest speaker will be Colonel Harry Lumpkin, who served for 26 years in the US Army, including tours in Vietnam, and as an assistant professor of psychology at West Point Military Academy. He was General Colin Powell's briefer at the Pentagon. and was the founder for the Vietnam Veterans of Aneruca Chapter # 1036 where he served as President for 5 years. Harry will be talking about the impact of Honor Flight on the veterans, especially the Vietnam vets."

You will have the chance to sign up for many volunteer opportunities so be sure to bring your calendars to the meeting. We have many activities during November, most of them on or surrounding Veteran's Day on 11-Nov.

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS.

- ✪ 2-Nov. M31 flight to DC. **Homecoming greeters needed. Entertainment begins at 9:45pm at American Legion Post 347.**
- ✪ 8-Nov. ELECTION DAY! Be sure to vote!

- ✪ 10-Nov. Doo-Wop Concert/Dance, Wildwood Com. Center, 6:30pm
- ✪ **11-Nov. VETERAN'S DAY!**
- ✪ 11-Nov. Parady's "Salute to Veterans", Brownwood Square, 5-9pm
- ✪ 11-Nov. CPR class at 1pm at La Hacienda Rec. Center
- ✪ 11-Nov. Paquette Farms Show Barn Canteen Dance
- ✪ 12-Nov. "75 Years of USO" musical, Savannah Center, 7pm
- ✪ 14-Nov. VHF monthly meeting, 12:30pm, Col. Cot. Rec. Cen.
- ✪ 19-Nov. Fashion Show, 9:30am & 12:30pm, Col. Cot. Rec. Cen.
- ✪ 24-Nov. THANKSGIVING DAY!
- ✪ 9-Dec. CPR class at 1pm at La Hacienda Rec. Cen.
- ✪ 12-Dec. VHF Club monthly meeting, 12:30pm, Col. Cot. Rec. Cen.

PARADY FINANCIAL'S "SALUTE TO VETERANS".

For the 4th year, Parady will sponsor this big event on Veteran's Day, 11-Nov, from 5-9pm at the Brownwood Paddock Square. The Veterans will be escorted into the square at 5pm for honored seating up front. Entertainment will include Scooter the DJ, The Villages Cheerleaders and The Villages Twirlers & Drum Corps. There will be auctions and 50/50 drawings and lots of fun. Volunteers are needed and items for auction are needed. Contact Ron Kaissling at 352-259-4435 or rcksling@aol.com to volunteer or donate items.

We really need a big turnout of Veterans.

Guardians, please contact your vets to see if they would like to participate. Vets, contact your guardian if you'd like to attend. Either Vets or Guardians should update Ron to let them know you're coming.

BOB EVANS FUNDRAISER RESULTS. This was held on 18-Oct. and resulted in Merchandise Sales of \$578, Donations of \$594 and Bob Evans Contributions (15% of sales) of \$625, for a total of \$1,796. Glenn Yagle, the event Chairman, wishes to thank everyone who turned out to staff the table, sell merchandise, distribute flyers and eat a meal at Bob Evans that day. Great work, everyone!

FT. MCCOY, MISSION #30. Also held on 18-Oct. was our "Flightless Honor Flight" at the VFW Veterans Home at Ft. McCoy, northeast of Silver Springs. Thirty-eight veterans, 5 wives of veterans in residence there, and 4 widows of veterans who still live at the Veterans Village all participated. The event was opened with a Color Guard provided by cadets from the Francis Marion Military Academy in Ocala. A bus full of almost 50 Villages Honor Flight guardians, staff and volunteers made it all happen. Representatives from all branches of the service, in full dress uniforms, presented each veteran with a Certificate of Appreciation and also with a "Challenge Coin", which was presented to each veteran by Air Force Brigadier General (ret.) John Grueser. A delicious lunch was provided to everyone by the Veterans Village. Following the "flight", the veterans were greeted by a rousing crowd, all waving flags and cheering. Music by Ralph DiNome highlighted the Homecoming, and included lots of school girls dancing with many of the veterans. MAAD ("Missions At A Distance") Director Gary Kadow, along with Flight Director Barbara Hambright and MXO Liza Walters declared the day a complete success, with many new friendships being formed. Media coverage included two newspapers, two TV stations and an on-line news agency.

DOO-WOP CONCERT/DANCE FUNDRAISER. There's still time to buy tickets so you can attend this event, which will be on Thursday, 10-Nov., at the Wildwood Community Center

on Powell Rd., south of CR-466-A at 6:30pm. They cost \$15.00 and tables for six may be reserved. Obtain tickets from Marilyn Gagen, mgagen@me.com or 352-552-6468. Marilyn says the event will be BYOB, but we will provide ice, cups, snacks and desserts. The headliner is "Forever Young", a popular area doo-wop group, who will perform some very danceable music from the 50's and 60's. Have a great evening with friends and help raise some money for Honor Flight at the same time.

FASHION SHOW "BRUNCH" TICKETS REMAIN AVAILABLE. Saturday, 19-Nov. will be the 4th Annual Fashion Show at the Colony Cottage Rec. Cen. The Brunch/Show begins at 9:30am and will feature models from Villages Honor Flight, as well as several veterans from WW2. (The Lunch/Show is "sold out".) Fashions will be provided by Anthony's and Steinmart, who will also provide discount shopping coupons for those who attend. There will be a catered brunch, beautiful baskets for a Chinese Auction and lots of surprises. Tickets may be obtained from LaVerne Holtz at 352-430-0899 (H) or 443-762-6292 and grammie6@comcast.net. Tables for 8 may also be reserved.

SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. At the "Bronze" Level (\$1,000 to \$2,499) the following contributions were made during this past month:

- ★ Key West Board of County Commissioners
- ★ D. Alan Hays
- ★ Joseph and Jill Fernandez
- ★ Debbie and Thomas Finn
- ★ Morgan Stanley
- ★ Italian American Club
- ★ Jeffrey Taffuri

THE SHOW BARN CANTEN DANCE. This event will take place at Paquette's Historical Farmall Museum on Whitney Rd., just south of SR-40 in

Leesburg from 6-9pm on Veteran's Day., 11-Nov. It will be a 3-hour show featuring Tampa's "42nd St. Big Band", a Frank Sinatra tribute, and an Andrews Sisters tribute. The cost is \$30.00 per person, with a portion being donated to VHF. *If you wear your military uniform you'll get \$4.00 cash back at the door!* Free U.S. flags, coffee and donuts will be provided and light concessions will be for sale. Come dance to the music of the 40's and see the display of military vehicles. Call 352-728-3588 for information and ticket purchase.

"USO 75 YEARS OF SERVICE" MUSICAL SHOW.

This big show, which will benefit Honor Flight and the USO, will be held on Saturday, 12-Nov at the Savannah Center in The Villages, beginning at 7pm. Tickets cost \$20 and \$25 and are on sale at all Villages Box Offices or on-line at www.thevillagesentertainment.com. There will be music and dance from the WW2, Korean and Vietnam eras. There is a huge cast of area favorites, as well as The Villages Beatlemaniaics and singers from The Villages Pop Chorus.

GUARDIAN'S CORNER. We have received many Guardian applications because of all of the recent articles in The Daily Sun. We thank all of you who have volunteered to become Guardians on future flights! We will start calling Guardians in December to fill both the February Flightless Flight and the March flight to Washington, D.C. If we continue to fly 40 veterans and 40 guardians per flight in 2017, we will need approximately 20 new guardians per flight. That doesn't sound like many, but with everyone's busy schedules, many prospective guardians are often not available for the 2 mandatory pre-flight training meetings as well as the day of the actual flight. We sometimes must call 4-5 guardians before we find 1 who is available! So, we need more guardians on our list. Please, if you have thought about becoming a guardian, *now* is the time to fill out your application and submit it to us!

When you apply, your name goes on a list in the order in which it was received. *The sooner you submit your application, the sooner we will call you for a flight.* When we call you, if you are not available for the 3 dates associated with the flight, *you stay on the list*, again by date of receipt. You do NOT go to the bottom of the list! We will call you again for the next flight, and so on, until you *are* available. If you are at least 18 years old and have not yet reached the age of 76, and are healthy enough to push a wheelchair with a veteran all day long, if necessary, and you want to honor our veterans for their service to our country, please submit an application. You can find the Guardian Application on our website at www.VillagesHonorFlight.org. Download the form, fill it out and mail it to: Villages Honor Flight, P.O. Box 490, Lady Lake, FL 32158-0490. Please write "GUARDIAN APPLICATION" on the lower left corner of the envelope.

If you are between the ages of 18 & 90 (or, even more), and can fulfill Guardian responsibilities, including pushing that wheelchair, but for a much shorter length of time, you can join us as a guardian on one of our "Flightless" missions, which take place at least twice a year. That's right, the only time we leave the ground is to board a bus! Many of our veterans cannot fly for medical reasons or are unable to endure the rigors of the long day associated with the flights to D.C. Some simply do not wish to fly. So, we take them on a *virtual* tour of Washington through the magic of video so they can also see their monuments and memorials. These flightless missions usually last from about 10am until 3pm. Once again, it is all about establishing new friendships and honoring our veterans. You can also find the Flightless Guardian Application on our website. Fill it out and mail it to the same address above.

If you have any questions, you can mail them to the same address or phone us at 352-432-1382

and someone will get back to you with the answer(s). We hope to see you soon on a future flight—real or virtual!

Buy At Amazon, Donate to Villages Honor

Flight Approximately 77% of all people living in the US shop at Amazon.com. Are you one of them? If so, you can have Amazon donate to Villages Honor Flight when you place an order. There is no cost to you. Amazon will donate ½% of your order total to any charity you designate. ½% is only 50 cents on a \$100 order but it all adds up.

Instead of using www.amazon.com, use smile.amazon.com. Register your favorite charity (we hope that it is us) and you are done. The next time you buy something on amazon, log in using smile.amazon.com instead of www.amazon.com

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Lady Lake, FL 32158-0490

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Phone: 352-432-1382

Comments or suggestions may be sent to newsletter Editor, Harry Miller, at harryelsucio@earthlink.net or phone 3520259-9417.

P.S.: PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!