



VILLAGES HONOR FLIGHT NEWSLETTER

January, 2017

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, 9-Jan.-2017 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). You will have the chance to sign up for many volunteer opportunities so be sure to bring your calendars to the meeting. Volunteers are needed for the upcoming reunion on Saturday, January 21st and also for the pre-flights for both the flightless and the regular missions.

We will be looking for a new media person to issue our monthly newsletter and to update the press with our upcoming activities. We also need some volunteers to take over the organization of the Fashion Show later this year on October 1st. The featured presentation will be the quarterly review.

Tickets, \$10, will be available at the meeting for the upcoming WWII concert on February 2nd. This yearly event is sponsored by the WWII History Club and all proceeds go to Villages Honor Flight.

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS.

- 09-Jan., VHF Club monthly meeting, 12:30pm, Col. Cot. Rec. Cen.
- 13-Jan., CPR CLASS AT 1PM at Colony Cottage Rec Cen.

- 21-Jan., Fall Reunion for Sep. 2016 & Nov. 2016 flights, 1pm, Col. Cot. Rec. Cen.
- 02-Feb. WWII Concert at 6pm at Northlake Pres. Church
- 04-Feb. Pre-flight for Flightless Honor Flight
- 10-Feb., CPR class at 1pm at Colony Cottage rec. cen.
- 12-Feb., M-33 Pre-flight #1, 12:30pm, Col. Cot. Rec. Cen.
- 13-Feb., VHF Club monthly meeting, 12:30pm, Col. Cot. Rec. Cen.
- 21-Feb., "Singing Sargent's" concert at North Lake Presby. Church, 7pm
- 22-Feb., "Singing Sargent's" concerts at Eisenhower Rec. Cen., 3pm & 7pm
- 25-Feb., M32 "Flightless" Honor Flight at Eisenhower Rec. Cen.
- 26-Feb., "Yee Haw bob" concert at Seabreeze Rec. Cen., 2pm & 5pm
- 6-Mar., Women Veterans Luncheon, Amer. Leg. Post 347, noon.
- 20-Mar., CPR class at 1pm at Colony Cottage rec. cen.
- 12-Mar. M33 Pre-flight #2, 12:30pm, Col. Cot., Rec. Cen.
- 13-Mar., VHF Club monthly meeting, 12:30pm, Col. Cot. Rec. Cen.
- 29-Mar., M33 flight to Washington, D.C.
- 29-Mar., Amelia Neighborhoods "Salute to Honor Flight", Col. Cot. Rec. Cen., 6-9pm.

BUY AT AMAZON & DONATE TO VILLAGES HONOR FLIGHT.

Approximately 77% of all people living in the USA shop at Amazon. 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. One half of one percent is only 50 cents on a \$100.00 order but it all adds up. Instead of using the usual www.amazon.com, use www.smile.amazon.com. Register your favorite charity at “smile” (we hope it’s Villages Honor Flight) and you are done. The next time you buy something on Amazon log in using “smile” instead of the regular Amazon web site. Everything will look the same. Bookmark the “smile” site and delete the Amazon site you are currently using.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN CENTRAL FLORIDA?

Cathy Haynes publishes a monthly newsletter on veteran-related activities for Central Florida. Many of you likely know her as “Miss Liberty” when she shows up to welcome our veterans home at the Orlando Airport in her stunning green outfit and her dazzling smile. You can view the current and approximately two years of back issues on our web site by clicking on “News” and then on “Cathy Haynes Newsletter”.

“SINGING SARGENTS” TO GIVE THREE

PERFORMANCES. This terrific choral group, part of the famous USAF Band, will give three performances over two days on Feb. 21-22, 2017. The first concert will be at the North Lake Presbyterian Church on Feb. 21, at 7:00pm. Tickets for that FREE concert can only be obtained on-line from www.USAFBand.AF.Mil. Following will be two performances at the Eisenhower Rec. Cen. on Feb. 22. These will also be FREE concerts, but tickets will be required and will be available from The Villages Box Office. The box office will have tickets available beginning the first week of January, 2017. The first of the two concerts at Eisenhower on Feb. 22 will be at 3:00pm, and following that performance there will be a *private 30 minute reception* for Honor Flight veterans with the Singing Sargents and the

musicians. The Villages Box Office will be holding a block of tickets for our veterans, which may be obtained by contacting Marilyn Gagen at mgagen@me.com or 352-552-6468 no later than January first. The second performance on Feb. 22 will also be at Eisenhower at 7:00pm, again with FREE tickets from The Villages Box Office the first week of January.

AMELIA NEIGHBORHOODS TO HOST THEIR 3RD

“SALUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT”. On Wed., 29-Mar-2017 several neighborhoods in the Village of Amelia will host a fun evening to benefit Villages Honor Flight. It will be at the Col. Cot. Rec. Cen. from 6-9:00pm. This is a *free* event, with music, finger foods, 50/50 raffle, Chinese Auction, Baskets, Arts & Crafts and Gifts. There is no admission fee, but attendees are asked to BYOB as well as finger foods or appetizers to share. All proceeds to benefit Villages Honor Flight. To donate items or for additional information contact Peg Leonard at phone 330-565-2127 or mleonard@leonardindustriesllc.com.

FALL FLIGHTS REUNION SET. The Reunion for those participating in the flights of Sept. 7, Sept. 24 and Nov. 2, 2016 will be held on Saturday, January 21, 2017, beginning at 1pm at the Col. Cot. Rec. Cen. Veterans may bring up to two (2) guests but Guardians should *not* bring any guests, due to space limitations. Refreshments will be served and yearbooks will be distributed. Guardians from those flights should contact their Veterans and then RSVP the names of those who will be attending to Sally Byrnes at sallyb5890@gmail.com or 352-259-5890.

VILLAGES HONOR FLIGHT HAS SPEAKERS

AVAILABLE. Many of us belong to several clubs and groups. If your club would like more information about Villages Honor Flight, we can provide a speaker. The presentation can range from 15-45 minutes depending on what your group needs. We can do a formal presentation

or a more casual chat with your group. Our videos are always popular to show your club/group members just what a typical day is like on an Honor Flight. Contact Barb Cooksey at bcooksey1122@centurylink.net to schedule a speaker to help spread the word about Villages Honor flight!

WOMEN VETERANS TO BE HONORED AT

LUNCHEON. American Legion Aux. Unit 347 will be hosting a luncheon for the female veterans who reside in Lake, Marion and Sumter counties on Monday, March 6, at noon at the American Legion Post 347, located on the corner of Rolling Acres Rd. and CR-466 in The Villages. There is NO cost for the veterans, but any guests are asked to make a \$5.00 donation. Pre-registration begins on January 15 and ends on Feb. 26, and is needed for an accurate meal count. Register by contacting Donna McGlone at donna244mcglone@gmail.com (please put "Women's Veterans Luncheon" in "Subject" line) or telephone 352-753-9688. Please provide your name, name of any guest(s), phone and E-mail contact. If you have a copy of a photo or article about your service, they would love to put it in their Cavalcade of Memories scrapbook. Provide that information to Donna, also.

SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

During Nov'16, the following large contributions were made to Villages Honor Flight:

Bronze Level (\$1,000 to \$2,500)

- Dennis Carney
- Charles Graham

WE'RE LOOKING FOR AN ASSISTANT

TREASURER. Villages Honor Flight is looking for an Assistant Treasurer. This person must be someone who has:

- Excellent computer skills
- Experience with financial software packages

- Accounting or bookkeeping background
- Has provided work direction to others

VHF uses Quick Books for its accounting. The Assistant Treasurer is responsible for updating and maintaining the integrity of this accounting system, in essence, the "system owner". This position provides work direction to the financial staff, as appropriate, primarily in a trouble shooting role. Requests often come from the VHF Treasurer for research or special projects, which requires the ability to utilize data from within Quick Books. The Assistant Treasurer also helps with the preparation of Financial Reports and Tax Returns. On average, this position requires 3 to 6 hours of work per week.

If interested in learning more about the Assistant Treasurer position, please contact Wayne Grunewald, VHF Treasurer, at 352-391-9707 or pagrun6@gmail.com.

"I DIDN'T KNOW THAT!" As we begin our new Flight Year, it makes some sense to remind everyone regarding the official software used by Villages Honor Flight:

- MS Excel
- MS Power Point
- MS Word
- AES encryption software

You do not need to have "the latest and greatest" versions of MS (Microsoft Office) products. There is sufficient compatibility among the various versions so that 2003, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2013, etc. are all OK.

GUARDIAN'S CORNER. Guardians are being called for the February Flightless Honor Flight and the Honor Flight to DC in March. If you have an application in to be a guardian you can help us by responding to our calls as soon as possible. Should you not have the dates available that are needed for the flight you are called for; rest assured you will be called during the round of calls to fill flights. You will not lose your place on the list.

Be sure to tell your friends about the opportunity to be a guardian on an Honor Flight and how to file an application.

To review Guardian Duties and Responsibilities and submit a Guardian application, go to <http://villageshonorflight.org/appls.htm> and click on Guardian Application for an initial application or Guardian Fly Again if you have completed your initial trip. Print the application and mail it to the address on the form or scan it and e-mail it to Janet Myers at gc1jmyers@gmail.com.

You may also apply to be a Guardian on a "Flightless" Honor Flight with veterans who cannot fly for medical reasons or simply don't want to fly. We take these honored veterans on a virtual tour of Washington, D.C. two more times each year. Information and a Guardian Application can be found at <http://villageshonorflight.org/flightless/flightless.htm>.

If you meet the guardian requirements, feel free to apply for both regular and flightless Honor Flights

VETERANS CORNER: The vet application rate (# of applications received per week) continues strong. We are presently identifying vets for the first flightless mission of 2017 (Feb'17) and the first regular mission to DC (Mar'17).

If you encounter anyone wearing a vet hat, please (a) thank them for their service and (b) ask if they have been on an Honor Flight.

WWII Music Concert. Each year the [WW2 History Club sponsors a concert](#) featuring a live band playing those great songs from WWII; all net proceeds are donated to Villages Honor Flight. This year the concert will be held on Thursday, 02-Feb-2017, 6PM at the North Lake Presbyterian Church. Admission is \$10 For tickets, contact Don Goldstein, dmgph@aol.com, (352) 391-1135 or

Liza Walters, lizadiana@aol.com, (352) 753-9664

Learn More About WWII. Although we are now flying more Korean War Vets than WWII, the original focus of Honor Flight was WWII only. If you are interested in learning more about WWII, consider attending one of the WW2 History Club meetings. Check out the web site at www.ww2hc.org

THANK YOU HARRY MILLER Our long time newsletter editor Harry Miller is retiring from that position as of 31-Dec-2016. Harry has done a terrific job pulling together useful information and ensuring that it goes out ontime. Thanks, Harry for all you have done.

COPIES OF THIS AND OLDER NEWSLETTERS: A copy of this newsletter and copies of the newsletters from the last three years are available on our web site. Click on **News** and then **Newsletters**

VILLAGES HONOR FLIGHT

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Comments or suggestions may be sent to the (temporary) newsletter Editor, Mark Erdrich at merlin66@villageshonorflight.org or (585) 455-2853

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