

# HONOR FLIGHT SOUTH FLORIDA

## Highlights of the General Meeting - February 1st, 2017

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** The meeting opened with a moment of silence for Navy Seal William Ryan Owens, who was killed in Yemen this week. He is the first American to die in combat since the change in administrations.

**ONE BIG CHANGE ON FLIGHT DATES:** There is one major change in the 2017 flight schedule. The flight with Vietnam veterans serving as Elite Guardians has been moved to Sept. 9.

April 8 -- Fort Lauderdale to Baltimore-Washington International.

May 20 -- Miami to Reagan National.

Sept. 9 -- Fort Lauderdale to Reagan National with Vietnam veterans serving as Elite Guardians.

Oct. 28 -- Miami to Washington Dulles -- Historic Airbus 380 flight with 200 World War II veterans.

**SPECIAL VIRTUAL HONOR FLIGHT:** Honor Flight will be hosting a Virtual Flight 1-4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Miami VA Hospital. There will be 55-60 wheelchair-bound veterans, representing World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm who reside at the hospital. Bev Engler and Elaine Martin are planning the event with mail call and Jim Naskrent's Honor Flight movie. Melissa Sauer and the Young Marines will be participating. If you can help Feb. 11 at the VA Hospital, in the Jackson Memorial complex, email [beverleyengler@yahoo.com](mailto:beverleyengler@yahoo.com). Volunteers should be at the hospital by 11 a.m.

**AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER RECRUITING MOST WORLD WAR II VETERANS:** With four flights planned, including the October flight with 200 World War II veterans, Chairman Rick Asper said the volunteer who recruits the most WWII veterans will receive a staff seat on the mega-flight. Rick said there will be final details at the next meeting. ... We have received a list of phone numbers of thousands of residents who were born during the years that could place them in the World War II era. We will need volunteers to start making calls. ... Keep looking for opportunities to invite veterans.... Thank you to those volunteers who were out recruiting in the past week at the "Wings of Freedom" air show and 1940's "In the Mood" concert.... Remember there are flyers and other recruiting materials on the website -- [www.honorflightsouthflorida.org](http://www.honorflightsouthflorida.org). Click on Media, then click on Support Materials.

**HONOR FLIGHT CRUISE:** Stan Bostic said that approximately 200 rooms have been booked through Honor Flight for the Feb. 10-13 Carnival Cruise. He asked that everyone "be patient" and they should be receiving a call in the next few days with cruise details.

**FUNDRAISING:** Chairman Asper said that we have a "good cushion" to carry us through the 2017 flights, but need to keep raising funds so plans can be just as ambitious in 2018. ... Fundraising chairman Bostic said the golf tournament is scheduled for Aug. 12 at Winston Trails in Lake Worth and the gala is scheduled for Nov. 18 at Rick Case Arena at Nova Southeastern University. Stan said General James Mattis, the new Secretary of Defense, is the possible speaker at the gala. ... These are significant projects. We need a big force of volunteers to assist Stan with the golf tournament and gala. Volunteers are needed to register participants, find sponsors, entertainment and items for gift baskets, raffles and auctions and fill in the many details of these events. If you can assist, email [stanbostic@rickcase.com](mailto:stanbostic@rickcase.com). ... There was a suggestion of starting a "Go Fund Me" page.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO FLIGHT DATES:** Bev Engler has started inviting veterans for the April 8 flight. ... Mercy Iglesias will be matching veterans and guardians. ... World War II Navy Seabee Harvey Mittleman, Arlene Frankel and Denise Brousseau are updating the list of Korean War veterans. ... If you are interested in flying as a guardian, fill out the application form on the website. The fee is \$400 for guardians. The age limit for guardians is 70, but that can be waived with approval by the medical director. ... A frequently asked question is whether wives can serve as guardians for their veterans. Spouses are not allowed

as guardians.

**SPREADING THE WORD:** Before the meeting, Jay Wein held a session for volunteers interested in giving presentations at schools and retirement villages. If you were not able to make the session, but still are interested in presentations, email [mikemiskew@gmail.com](mailto:mikemiskew@gmail.com). Mike can pair you with a veteran or you can shadow one of the regular presenters to first experience these events. One teacher described how valuable the presentations are for students. ... Pembroke Pines Charter has raised \$4,200 for Honor Flight.

**SPECIAL NIGHTS FOR VETERANS:** Our World War II veterans have been invited to two gala events, both at the Bergeron Ranch in Weston: March 4 -- 10 WWII veterans at an event to support handicapped children; March 11 -- 20 veterans for Boys and Girls Clubs gala. If you know a veteran who is interested, email [stanbostic@rickcase.com](mailto:stanbostic@rickcase.com). ... Free tickets are available for WWII, Korean and Vietnam veterans for the barbershop quartet shows at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Feb. 18 at Nova Southeastern (see attachment). Contact Paula Jarrett at [1pjfirefly@gmail.com](mailto:1pjfirefly@gmail.com).

**HONOR FLIGHT SHIRTS:** If you're interested in an Honor Flight shirt, contact [stanbostic@rickcase.com](mailto:stanbostic@rickcase.com). Long sleeve, short sleeve and golf shirts are available. Red shirts are for board members and committee chairmen, navy blue for those giving presentations and light blue for other volunteers. Stan will be ordering shirts a dozen at a time to keep prices lower for the specially stitched logos.

**WORTH NOTING:** Stan Bostic has met with the Archbishop and there will be an article about Honor Flight in all parish newsletters. ... Jennifer Hamilton, who is taking over for retiring Mike Roland as student activities director, said Broward Schools have scheduled a Virtual Flight for Jan. 26, 2018. ... Harvey Mittleman has purchased 100 car magnets with the Honor Flight logo. ... Steve Shapiro says Honor Chairs have been repaired and 79 are ready for the April 8 flight. ... And finally, Keep voting! Voting continues through Feb. 24 for the Community Choice Award. And you won't be accused of voting fraud. You can vote daily and use multiple devices. Click [HERE](#) to Vote!

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays, Feb. 15 and March 1. Check the website calendar for meeting updates and other Honor Flight events.

-- Tom Christensen, Volunteer coordinator