

HONOR FLIGHT SOUTH FLORIDA

Highlights of the General Meeting - July 12th, 2017

The meeting opened with a moment of silence for all veterans and especially those 16, many of them special forces, who were killed in the airplane crash this week.

NEXT FLIGHTS:

SEPTEMBER 9 OUT OF FORT LAUDERDALE: There are 24 World War II and 42 Korean War veterans confirmed. Vietnam War veterans are being contacted to serve as Elite Guardians in this special flight bonding several military generations. The usual guardian fee is waived for the Vietnam veterans. Chairman Rick Asper said we may be getting a slightly larger plane and will be adding a few veterans.

OCTOBER 28 OUT OF MIAMI: We are only a month away from our August 15 deadline of confirming that we will have the mandatory 200 World War II veterans for free use of an Airbus 380. We still need everyone's help to register more veterans. Applications can be found on the website -- www.honorflightsouthflorida.org. You can also find recruiting and social media flyers at www.honorflightsouthflorida.org/supportmaterial/. ... Rick said that the volunteer who registers the most veterans will be rewarded a seat in the Airbus 380 first-class suite.

COUNTDOWN TO MILITARY GALA: It's only three months to the October 14 gala at Nova Southeastern University's Rick Case Arena. There's lots of work to be done and again this is an area where we need everyone's help. This will be the biggest event ever for Honor Flight South Florida. Our flight plans for 2018 will depend largely on the success of the gala. Attached are flyers with the "save the date" information of the scheduled entertainment and available sponsorships and tables. Gala tickets will be available soon. If you know someone who may be a potential sponsor or major donor and are hesitant to ask yourself, please contact Stan Bostic -- stanbostic@rickcase.com. We also need donations for the silent auction -- gift certificates, a few days at a hotel, an entertainment package. Use your imagination and start checking around. We have a good product to sell -- honoring our veterans.

VOLUNTEERS PARTY ON JULY 29: World War II veteran Carl Shechter and his guardian son Jay are hosting a party to thank all volunteers for their Honor Flight experience with a special party on Saturday, July 29.

WHEN: 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, July 29.

WHO: All Honor Flight volunteers are invited.

WHAT: An indoor picnic with burgers, hotdogs, desserts, etc. There will be a deejay, dancing and even pool tables.

WHERE: Carl Shechter S.W. Focal Point Senior Center, 301 NW 103rd Ave., Pembroke Pines.

RSVP: If you plan to attend, please email tchristensen720@aol.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BOOMER EXPO: Dawn Lasky will be hosting an Honor Flight table Tuesday, July 25 at Seminole Casino, 5550 NW 40th St., Coconut Creek. We are looking for a few veterans to share their Honor

Flight experience and try to register a few more vets. The event is scheduled from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. If you are available for a few hours, email tchristensen720@aol.com.

ANTHONY'S PIZZA FUNDRAISER: Toby and Joel Bofshever have arranged a fundraiser on August 3 at Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza at 512 N. Pine Island Rd., Plantation. Tell your server you're there to support Honor Flight and we receive 20% of your bill.

"BIG BEER BASH": Ten local breweries will be competing in the "Big Beer Bash" contest to benefit Honor Flight on August 5, 4-8 p.m. at the Quarterdeck restaurant, 1541 Cordova Rd., Fort Lauderdale. Ryan Paton said Honor Flight received \$4,500 in proceeds on a very rainy day last year.

PAINTING PARTY: Unleash your creative side -- paint a little, sip some wine and have a good time -- at Painting with a Twist. If at least 20 people register, Honor Flight will receive 50% of the \$35 fee for the two-hour class. The event will be 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1 at Painting with a Twist, 5810 S University Drive, Suite 106, in the Target shopping plaza at Stirling and University in Davie. To register go to <http://www.paintingwithatwist.com/events/viewEvent.aspx?eventID=1181950>; enter passcode 1941. For more information, see this flyer -- <https://mail.aol.com/webmail/getPart?uid=28824121&partId=2&scope=STANDARD&saveAs=P-WAP+flyer+HFSF+Nov+1.pdf> -- or contact HFSF volunteer Elaine Martin, 305-883-7738

ALSO WORTH NOTING: The Plantation Volunteer Fire Department and St. Anthony Knights of Columbus each presented Honor Flight with generous donations of \$500. Thank you! ... We expect to know the rates soon for the Invicta Cruise in February. We think our Honor Flight rates will be cheaper, plus we get a generous donation, so it's beneficial to wait on reserving a cabin. Chairman Asper closed the meeting by offering some general comments about board responsibilities.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Wednesday, July 26, 6:30 p.m. at Broward Colleges. (Watch the website -- www.honorflightsouthflorida.org -- for possible updates.)

-- Tom Christensen, Volunteer coordinator