## Highlights of the General Meeting - July 13, 2016

Time is running short. Only 86 days until Oct. 8, the tentative date for our next Honor Flight. Chairman Rick Asper is working to finalize plans for the jumbo-jet flight.

We usually carry 75-80 veterans on a flight. The mega-flight will give us a chance to carry approximately 180 veterans. Currently, we have only about 50 registered and, as usual, some probably will not be able to make the trip. We only have a few weeks to register approximately 150 more veterans.

Tonight's meeting (July 13) was almost totally devoted to an urgent call for all volunteers to try to recruit veterans for the great Honor Flight experience.

Volunteers offered a number of good suggestions on how to spread the word:

211 Broward -- emergency, help line service used by the elderly Joyce Kaufman radio show Through Broward teachers email system TV public service announcements V.A. hospitals Sports teams Gift cards for referrals Doctors' offices Clubs Movie theater preview ads Publix Clear Channel Larger posters American Legion and VFW Tables at Fort Lauderdale and Miami airports "Ask me about Honor Flight" badges Police and FBI emails to employees Assist veterans in filling out applications Reach veterans through children and grand children

We can all try to reach veterans through one-on-one contacts, so if you don't know a veteran yourself, maybe a friend of a friend has a grandparent who served in the war.

Jim Naskrent has prepared flyers and Facebook posters to help in the recruiting. Several items are attached. You can find more on the website -- http://honorflightsouthflorida.org/supportmaterial.

If your community, condo association, church, business, club or whatever has a newsletter or website, try to copy and publish/post this short article (below): World War II veterans invited on free trip to Washington As young troops, they helped rescue the world from ultimate tyranny. Now they deserve a day that they will always remember.

Honor Flight South Florida is looking for World War II veterans to go on the all-day trip to Washington D.C. to see their great memorials. There is NO CHARGE for veterans. Seats are available for the fall charter flight, currently scheduled for Oct. 8.

On a typical Honor Flight day, veterans visit the World War II and Iwo Jima memorials and Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. The day also is filled with surprises that the veterans always enjoy.

Each veteran is accompanied by a guardian. Paramedics and doctors also accompany the veterans.

Korean War veterans have gone on flights when seats are available.

Veterans are encouraged to register for flights on the website -www.honorflightsouthflorida.org. Application forms are also available there or by calling 855-359-1838.

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## **KEY DATES:**

Quarterdeck fundraiser: Saturday, Aug. 6; 1541 Cordova Rd., Fort Lauderdale. Time TBA. Volunteers will be needed.

Golf tournament: Saturday, Nov. 5; Raffle tickets for a new car are still available. Sponsors still needed.

Military Retiree Appreciation Day: Friday, Sept. 23; Retirees from all service branches and their families are invited. U.S. Army Garrison-Miami, 9301 NW 33rd St., Doral, 33172; Contact Sandra Brown -- sandra.d.brown73.civ@mail.mil

Virtual Honor Flight: Wednesday, Dec. 7; South Plantation High School. As you contact veterans, please tell those who are reluctant aboutflyingaboutthe Virtual Flightnightandget their phonenumber.

Spring golf tournament: Tentatively scheduled near Memorial Day.

Military gala: Tentatively scheduled for summer, 2017.

-- Tom Christensen, Volunteer Coordinator