
The Avenger

10-2013

The Avenger - October 2013

Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum

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Educating . Preserving . Honoring the Heroes

Newsletter of the NAS Fort Lauderdale Museum

October 2013

Allan McElhiney President, Deborah Hamilton and Minerva Bloom, Editors

Website www.nasflmuseum.com **Giftshop** zazzle.com/nasfortlauderdale

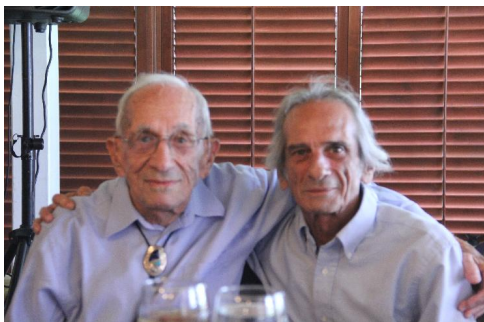
E-mail nasflmuseum@yahoo.com **Phone** (754)300-9259 & (954)359-4400

WWII Veterans History Project

The NASFL Museum collects personal stories from America's World War II Veterans, with the purpose of building a lasting legacy of preserving history for generations to come. Our History Project collects unpublished written memoirs of personal wartime experiences. We welcome diaries, collections of letters, and photographs that tell the veteran's story. Maps, drawings, and other documents are also welcome. We don't have to keep your originals. You can scan documents and e-mail us. This project was started in 2010, with the introduction of NASFL Museum founder Allan McElhiney, who was a sailor in World War II. If you are interested in sharing your Veteran's story, or your family's history, please visit our [Veterans History Project](#) page to download a Memoir Kit.

September Luncheon at Lauderdale Yacht Club

On Saturday, September 21st members attended the NASFL Museum Luncheon. Our Speaker was Mr. Edgar "Buddy" Galvin, a WWII Navy veteran who shared with us his war experience as a Long Range Aerial Navigator aboard B-24 Liberators, on anti-submarine patrol out of Dunkeswell Airfield, in East Devon, England. Buddy is former Mayor of Hallandale, and he was influential in naming Broward Airport to its current name of Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. He has become one of our best volunteers at the Museum, giving tours and personal recollections to visitors. At 92, Buddy remains active in various causes in his community. You can read his biography on this newsletter, or visit our website to see a photo gallery and video presentation of life at Dunkeswell Airfield during World War II: [Buddy Galvin](#)



Our Speaker *Buddy* Galvin with Son Barry



Dorothy Riser, Betty Roschman,
Norene Damico and Fran Scheffler



Rudy Oetting, Staff Sgt. U.S Marines (Ret)
Aviator, Flight Radio Operator



Helen & Don Fallon



CAP Virginia Montalvo with author John Bowen



Richard Haddad & Jordán Morgan



Paul Bradley with daughter Pat presenting his drawing "The Lone Sailor"



Gary Kilbride & Bobbie Price



Charlie Schaus presenting a book to the Museum with original photos from his USS Barton tour.

Photos [Minerva Bloom](#)



At this Luncheon we also had **Mr. Paul Summer**, representing the non-profit organization [Honor Flight South Florida](#). We learned about their mission and its core group of volunteers dedicated to honor American Veterans. *Honor Flight* was conceived by physician assistant and retired Air Force Captain Earl Morse. The

inaugural Honor flight took place in May of 2005. Six small planes flew out of Springfield, Ohio taking 12 WWII Veterans paired with a volunteer Guardian for the day, on a visit to Washington, D.C to see their memorial. Later that year after word got out, the list of Veterans grew and Honor Flight transitioned from a few small planes to commercial airlines. Since then, Honor Flight has flown more than 100,000 Veterans —free of charge— from all U.S cities. They're looking for Veterans & Guardians. Website HonorFlightSouthFL.org or contact: 1-855-359-1938.

IN MEMORIAM

Anita Marie Zanky, who passed away May 27, 2013 at the age of 92. Anita joins husband **Leonard Zanky** USN, who was stationed here at this base during WWII. **Jack Cawley**, USN WWII also passed away on August 4 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the age of 90. Jack served at this base in the Wing Shop. Please visit [Jack's biography page](#) in our website. **John Garneau**, Army Aircorp WWII (Chuck McLaughlin's father-in-law). **Mary Gill**, (Yankee Clipper), and **Mark Stein**, Director of Broward County League. Our deepest condolences to all the families.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Melinda & Robert Barnes, Christopher Ryan, Vickie McKee, Henry Torres USN WWII, Lieutenant Louis Nielsen, David Ehlers, Donna Weatherwalks, Scott and Norma Watson, Keith Culm USN, Lifetime Members: Gary Prittle USNR, of Pirtle Construction Co., and Rich & Bev Bertschi.

THANK YOU

- **THANK YOU** to the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, Maintenance Department: **Frank Tomasso, J. Gonzales, and P.T. Ton**, for helping us with our Air Conditioner.
- Lifetime member **Brad Wood** for introducing his IT technician **Keith Culm**. Keith is a U.S. Navy Veteran. He recently became a member and donated a computer, and has helped with our wireless connection set-up.

The Memorial Bricks Program is Resurrected!

4" x 8" Engraved Light-Gray Brick Paver - \$60 each

You can play an important role in preserving the spirit of naval aviation by purchasing a personally engraved brick paver for the **new area of the Flight 19 Memorial Monument**. This monument will be relocated from Navy Park to the grounds of the Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum (sometime around 2014), where it will be displayed for all who pass through to see. Whether celebrating a graduation, memorializing a loved one, or commemorating a retirement, we all have a story to tell. Memorial Bricks are engraved with your personalized message, with one, two or three lines. You will receive a certificate of ownership and location map when the brick is installed. All funds raised from Memorial Bricks sales support the Museum. Your personal message becomes a lasting gift and a piece of history at the Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum. Keep the Spirit alive, with your Memorial Paver! You can fill the form supplied in this newsletter, or check-out with PayPal by visiting our website: [Memorial Bricks Program](#)



Memorial Brick Pavers in light-gray with one, two or three lines in black text



This monument will be relocated to the grounds of the Museum

MUSEUM NEWS



Congratulations to David Epstein! Member and Museum volunteer [David Epstein](#) was honored by the Gold Coast Chapter #133 DAV, along with 5 other World War II Veterans, for their military service in "*A Night of American Icos in Broward County Florida.*" Commissioner Chip LaMarca bestowed Proclamations upon each of these men. A special ceremony in celebration of their lives followed with dinner, at the American Legion Post 162. Former President George H.W. Bush sent a letter of congratulations to David, as they knew each other while training with VT-153 Squadron at NAS Quonset Point, Rhode Island.

David's wife Gloria is now home recovering from multiple hip surgery and making good progress. Wishing her all the best.

NEW EXHIBIT DONATIONS

1. **CAPT Stephen Schaffer USN** donated a Bible and a Rosary belonging to his great-uncle— Private Robert McManus from Philadelphia, who was an Army Engineer serving in the Pacific during WWII. Private McManus carried these items with him throughout the war. In turn, Stephen carried them throughout his service in Afghanistan. Stephen also donated his U.S MultiCam ACUs uniforms and full gear used in Afghanistan
2. **CAPT Scott Hahn USN** donated a POW/MIA flag, a U.S Navy, and an embroidered U.S Flag.
3. **Mary Kelly** from Bedford, Texas donated a young adults book "*The Bermuda Triangle: The disappearance of Flight 19*" by Jack DeMolay.
4. *Song & Service Book for Ship & Field*, 1942, Army and Navy Ed. Donated by **Mr. John W. Vickers**.
5. **Gary Kilbride** with a cache of U.S Military & history books and a vintage sextant.
6. Mrs. **Carol McQuade** in Memory of her husband, Korean Veteran **Henry J. McQuade US Army**: Officer's Field jacket, Field/Combat Wool uniform jacket and pants, thermal clothing and an Army soldier's metal trunk.
7. Donation from an **Anonymous** person in Delray Beach: Two US Marine sterling silver rings from WWII. There is no name inscription on the inside.
8. **David Epstein** with a memorial signed flag, and a Boatswain's pipe whistle.
9. **Karl Bork** with a signed Vietnam Lithograph by renowned aviation artist, R.G. Smith.
10. **Ray Rivera**, with a WWII US Navy blanket. It will be used in the Bush Room.
11. **George Lord** with military books for our library.
12. Naval Artist **K. Price Randel** donated a signed poster from his painting "*Leading the Fleet.*"
13. Two vintage Lithographs donated by the **Wilen Family** have been added to our Naval Art collection: Commemorating the 45th Anniversary "*The Liberation of Moosburg*" April 29, 1945 by famous illustrator and fine artist Barron Storey. Signed, limited edition, lithograph 226/500, 1990. And "*Welcome Home, Yank*" by William S. Phillips, 1982; one of the most widely recognized and collected aviation artists in North America. Signed, limited edition lithograph 516/1000.
14. **Scott & Norma Watson**, with a Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Pillow Sham. We didn't have one, so it is a great addition!! A US Military, 1945 Mess Kit. A Star Finder and Identifier Kit, from the Hydrographic Office of the Navy. Three Technical Manuals published by the War Department from 1940, 1941, and 1942: Aerial Photography, Celestial Navigation, and Air Navigation. A Naval Aviation Flare Gun which is rather unique. It has on the barrel a unique locking system where it would lock into a port to fire a flare outside the aircraft. And also a 45 Shoulder Holster which was one of the types used by the pilots for their sidearm.
15. **Don & Helen Fallon** with various model aircraft.
16. **Edgar "Buddy" Galvin**, with books on history of Fleet Air Wing 7; US Navy Liberator Squadrons; photographs from Dunkswell Airfield, and compilation newsletters with stories from Fleet Air Wing 7 Reunions post-war.
17. **The Accornero Family**, Peter, Andrea & Andrew, planned and built 4 display pedestals made from Ashwood to be used in our *Self-guided Tour* of the Museum.
18. **Architect Paul Bradley**, U.S Army WWII, presented his latest drawing "*The Lone Sailor.*" Paul celebrated his 91st birthday recently. Happy Birthday Paul!

To see images of all these donations you can visit our [Events Blog](#)

MORE NEWS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are currently working on a Long Term Lease with the Airport. This is great news since it is what we need to forge ahead! We will keep you updated. The Boy Scouts Troop #190 will continue to help us with several more Eagle Scout projects. NOSC Miami and VTU0808G Navy Reserve Unit continue with their participation every 1st Saturday of the month. FBI Agent Kitty Weidman (Ret. Navy Reserve) has been assigned to Ft. Laud. Airport as FBI liaison, which allows her to check in on the Museum. It's good to have her back! Fort Lauderdale Magazine interviewed John Bloom at the Museum for their November issue. Our next Luncheon will be in January, or February 2014. We will update you. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are also currently planning the Memorial Ceremony for the 68th Anniversary of Flight 19. We'll have a 1942 Pirsch Engine Pumper from the Fort Lauderdale Fire Museum. Also a WWII Jeep Willys, and Joey Jet will do a live radio broadcast. The event will be announced in the newspapers. We're looking for participants and volunteers. If you're interested please contact Debbie or Minerva at: (754) 300-9259. To see an example of the ceremony please check Program from the 67th Anniversary at our website. We are planning an Open House Party for the holidays. We will announce the date at a later time. We continue to expand our presence online in venues like twitter, facebook, linkedin, youtube and others. Our Events Blog page has over 13,000 hits and growing, since its debut 3 years ago. More and more people find the Museum searching online. |
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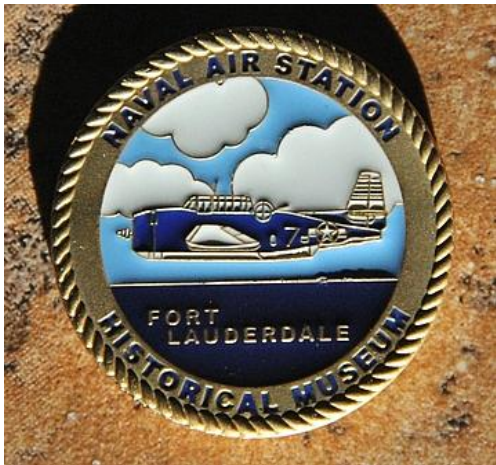
The NASFL Challenge Coins arrived!

If you PRE-ORDERED, we will contact you to arrange your pick-up. The price was \$7 for each coin. If you would like to get new coins they are \$10 each. You can [e-mail us](#), or place an [order at our website](#)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full colors on both sides Enamel on metal Antique gold finish Rope edge 1 1/2 inch size Price: \$10 USD Delivery Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pick up at Museum. - U.S (\$2), or International delivery (\$5 USD). Add \$2 per every 5 coins added to order. | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> FRONT BACK </div> |
|--|---|



FRONT



BACK

VOLUNTEERS

- [Navy Heritage Project Volunteers](#):** organized materials, created space in the attic, and refreshed the Museum's flag pole with new flags that CAPT Scott Hahn donated. Participants from VTU0808G Navy Reservist Unit: [CAPT Scott Hahn](#), Chief Deborah Krieger, [CAPT Stephen Schaffer](#), CDR Rey Horta, Rodney Lewis USN, Bruce Fuchs USN.
- Online Exhibit Volunteers:** Peter Bloom and Jon Axler (Jon's Axler father is a Broward County Historical Commissioner along with John Bloom). Peter and Jon curated the Online Exhibit "[Forgotten No More](#)."

- **Museum Maintenance Volunteers:** Ray & Larry Rivera, John Casey, Richard Haddad.
- **Library Bookcase Project Volunteers:** Awesome improvement in our Library! New custom-made bookcases by Volunteer Boy Scouts from Troop #190: Project Leader Anthony Alberico and scouts Jonathan Persaud, Jonathan Flavell, Bryan Buckley, and Jim Robison as Supervisor. Museum volunteers: John Casey, John Bloom, Peter Bloom, Nicholas Vasil, and Don Fallon. Thank you to Scout Troop Moms Berta Alberico, Rafeela Persaud, Effy Vasil, and Cindy & Steve Buckley for bringing shade tents, providing lunch, refreshments and for boosting morale!!
- **Jacks of all Trades:** Thank you to volunteers Debbie Hamilton, Dorothy Riser, Minerva Bloom, Angela Piraino, Sue Presley, and Helen & Don Fallon for their help with all the rest ...



Boy Scouts from Troop #190 finished the wall to wall custom-made bookcases for the Museum's Library.



VTU0808G Navy Reservist Unit at the Library

MUSEUM BENEFACTORS 2013

Thank you to the following individuals for their generous contribution to the NASFL Historical Association, your Museum, and your community!

Dr. Anthony Atwood

Executive Director at South Florida Military Museum

Robert & Melinda Barnes

In Memory of former member Jack Cawley who was stationed at the NAS Fort Lauderdale base during WWII

Capt. Dares Emery Wirt

David Ehlers

Jovanka Semiz

In memory of former member Anita Zanky

Edgar Buddy Galvin

Mr. Matthew Moffit

Therese A. Trimberger

In memory of Jack Cawley

Mike & Diane Bloedel

In Memory of Jack Cawley

Allan Yoder

Catherine "Kitty" Weidman

The Flight 19 - Soccer Club

Capt. Milton Lapp



Lt.Jg EDGAR *BUDDY* GALVIN - USNR WWII
Long Range Aerial Navigator aboard B-24 Liberators
V-105 Squadron - Dunkeswell Airfield, England

Born in 1921 in Baltimore, Maryland. Buddy is a widower with 4 children, 3 grandchildren, and 2 great-grand children. Buddy studied classical music, but he loved to play dance music. He attended Dental School at the University of Maryland from 1939 to 1940, before deciding to enlist in the US Navy as a 2nd class Ship Fitter. He was sent for naval training at NAS Norfolk, Virginia, with the 99th Platoon. Completed training on February 1942 and transferred to Inshore Patrol Station, in Morehead City, North Carolina, where he advanced to 1st class Ship Fitter. In 1943 he became an Aviation Cadet at the University of North Carolina. He then transferred to Hollywood, Florida to attend Air Navigation School. This school was located at the Hollywood Beach Hotel.

In August of 1943 Buddy graduated as an Ensign, and was assigned as a Navigator on *Navy Bombing Squadron VB-105*, stationed in Bermuda. This Squadron was transferred to England at St. Eval, Cornwall, and then onto Dunkeswell, Devon, as part of Fleet Air Wing 7. Buddy served in Dunkeswell from July 1943 to June 1944. He completed 30 missions on anti-submarine patrol aboard the B-24 Liberator (PB4Y-1). Losses for this squadron were 50% due to enemy, weather, and pilot error. Conditions on the Dunkeswell base were far from adequate: with roads and paths around the living quarters like a sea of 'mud' the men had to wear knee high boots just to trek across to the wash rooms. It was those conditions combined with harsh winter elements that prompted someone to nickname the base "Mudville Heights" and from then on, as one crew member put it "The name just kinda stuck!" The weather was often unfavorable. Take-offs of heavily loaded Liberator aircraft in instrument conditions and in darkness, were the routine. Long patrols at low altitude usually in conditions of reduced visibility demanded constant vigilance in the search for enemy submarines, and against the ever present threat from enemy fighters. Landings, often in darkness with minimum ceilings and visibility, required expert airmanship on the part of tired pilots and navigators. When Fleet Air Wing 7 ceased operations from Dunkeswell, the Squadrons had flown a total of 6,464 missions, sunk five submarines and assisted in sinking at least four others. The Wing lost 183 officers and men, a further 49 were killed in connection with the FAW-7 operation.

Buddy came back to the USA in June of 1944— three days before D-Day Invasion. He was then assigned to NAS Opa-locka as an Aerial Navigator Instructor. While in Opa-locka, he participated in the search for Flight 19. Buddy received three air medals, and one distinguished flying cross. After the Navy in 1955, Buddy settled in Hollywood, Florida. He became very involved in civic duty along with his wife Ruth. He was President of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, Kwanis Club, Hallandale Chamber of Commerce, and second President of the Navy League of Hollywood, and also served as Mayor of Hallandale. Buddy was influential in re-naming Broward Airport to "*Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport*". Buddy has become one of our best volunteers at the NASFL Museum, giving tours and personal recollections of his WWII experience to our visitors. At 92, Buddy remains active in various causes in his community, and he is also an avid golfer. [Visit Buddy Galvin's](#) Page on our Website to see a photo gallery and video.



Buddy Galvin (back row, first from right)
 VB-105 training in Bermuda, 1943



B-24 Liberator flying over the control tower
 at Dunkeswell Airfield, 1940's

<i>FLEET AIR WING-7</i>		
AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION LETTERS/NUMBERS		
MISSION SYMBOLS	SQUADRON	AIRCRAFT No:
★	105	B1=0
●	110	B1=A
▼	103	B1=A

Aircraft Identification – Fleet Air Wing 7
 Dunkeswell Airfield



HERBERT (Adolph) WEIGAND

U.S Marine Corps and U.S Army Air Corps

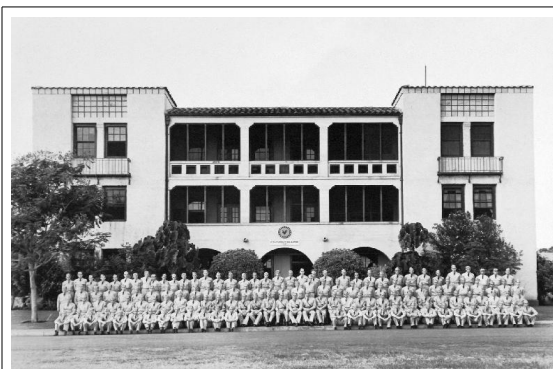
For several years, the Museum kept a wooden trunk in storage. The trunk belonged to an Army soldier from WWII. Nobody knew who this soldier was. He was affectionately called "*The Ghost*" by Museum volunteers. The trunk had been donated by an acquaintance of Herbert A. Weigand, after his passing. According to this acquaintance: "*Herbert's body had to be retrieved from his apartment after a few days, and the Sheriff asked me if I could do something with the contents of the trunk, being that I was ex-military.*" Herbert had no other relatives or friends to claim his belongings. His military journey was unknown to all— until two volunteers at the Museum opened his trunk to unveil his life. Finally, his war experience and service to our country and the world, can be honored and remembered. This is what we discovered:

Herbert (Adolph) Weigand dropped the "*Adolph*" from his name during WWII. He was born to German immigrant parents, in Ozone Park, N.Y. on January 12, 1912. Herbert enlisted with the U.S Marine Corps in 1934 as an Aircraft Machinist Helper. He was honorably discharged in 1938. This was before the United States entered the war. At news

of war breaking in Europe, Herbert decided to return to the military. This time around at 27, he joined the Army Air Corps where he served as an Aircraft Mechanic from 1939 to 1941 with the historic 19th Pursuit Squadron at Wheeler Field, then Territory of Hawaii. In 1942, a few months after Pearl Harbor, He transferred to England with the 94th Troop Carrier Squadron (D8), until the end of the war. Herbert documented his experience in his diaries, and kept an extensive correspondence (which is still being curated), photos, magazines, newspaper clippings, and souvenirs from his tours in Europe. After the war, Herbert retired to South Florida, where he would spend the rest of his days.

Wheeler Army Field: The site of several major historic aviation events prior to the Pearl Harbor attack on 7 December 1941, including the first nonstop Mainland-Hawai'i flight in 1927; the great Dole Air Race from California to Hawai'i; the first trans-Pacific flight from the U.S to Australia in 1928, and the first Hawai'i-to-Mainland solo flight in 1935 by Amelia Earhart. The site of the first attack on 7 December 1941, leading up to the attack on Pearl Harbor. The Japanese attacked to prevent the numerous planes there from getting airborne. Most of the planes were destroyed, but 12 pilots assigned to the 15th Pursuit Group at Wheeler, succeeded in getting their P-36 Hawk and P-40 Warhawk aircraft off the ground engaged the enemy in furious dogfights, and scored some of the 1st American victories of WWII.

19th Pursuit Squadron: The squadron suffered six casualties as a result of the attack on Oahu by the Japanese, but no fatalities. The squadron was then stationed aboard the USS Natoma Bay, off Saipan. Upon arriving, the 19th flew night and day missions, strafing and using general purpose bombs and rockets in support of advancing U.S ground troops. Using homemade bombs made out of napalm, gasoline, and oil placed inside fuel tanks, the 19th helped U.S forces successfully invade and capture Saipan, Tinian, and Guam in three months. Their mission changed to long-range bomber escort, with occasional strike missions to Pagan Island and Iwo Jima. The 19th relocated to Okinawa, where the first 19 FS pilots were awarded their '*ace*' rating. Later, in August 1945 the Squadron participated in the Japanese surrender. **View Herbert A. Weigand photo gallery exhibit [Forgotten No More](#) in our website.**



19th Pursuit Squadron
Wheeler Army Field, Territory of Hawaii, 1939



Refueling aircraft, Wheeler Field, 1941



Weigan's WWII mementos from various countries U.S Marine Corps 1934-38 and U.S Army 1939-45